

# THE CALCUTTA JOURNAL,

OR

## Politics and General Literature.

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[No. 230]

### SUMMARY OF NEWS.

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#### Politics of Europe.

A Ship was reported yesterday as being below the Light House, but up to the time of our Paper going to Press, we had no intelligence of her name.

The subject of Ireland is one which gains interest every hour, and as we have reason to believe that this interest is as general as it is sincere, we shall be forgiven we hope for keeping alive the attention it has so deservedly awakened. We refer to our Asiatic Department for an excellent proposal of a Correspondent, under the head of "Patriotic Suggestion," and give here the remarks on the same subject which appeared in the MADRAS GAZETTE that came to hand by the Dawn of yesterday:—

*Ireland.*—It has often been our painful task to lay before our readers accounts of outrages committed in Ireland, the bare perusal of which makes the blood thrill with horror.—It is impossible, however, to contemplate them, without lamenting a state of society that could give birth to such enormities.

Whether the disturbances are independent of all political opinions or prejudices we will not venture to enquire—but the sufferings of the Irish are aggravated by circumstances which neither human foresight could provide for, nor care prevent.—Starvation staves them in the face, as an additional stimulus to those evil-passions which have crimsoned the soil with the blood of her own children.—Our brother Editor of the COURIER has anticipated us in appealing to the benevolent feelings of the Community of this Presidency in behalf of the poor sufferers of the Sister Kingdom; and most cordially do we follow his example in offering our columns to the promotion of so laudable an object.

It is with the liveliest joy that we acknowledge the delightful truth that the present age has been termed, the "Age of Benevolence."—There is scarcely an English newspaper but records some meeting of men of fortune for the most salutary purposes.—The noble and numberless structures for the relief of distress, which are the ornament and glory of the British Metropolis, proclaim a species of munificence unknown to former ages,—CHARTABLE SUBSCRIPTIONS ARE OBTAINED ALMOST AS SOON AS SOLICITED—and that public energy has not been wanting on the present occasion we have clearly proved by extracts from the latest prints.

The actual situation of Ireland is a heart-rending one—sad is it to see the wretched peasant's hovel and the wretched beggar bearing his load of misery about him.—Sad is it to contemplate that once fertile soil, deserted or neglected by its gentry, its mutual guardians and protectors, and leaving their poor peasantry to the mercy of servile and rapacious agents, who shear the flocks which they were appointed to tend, and turn them out in shivering nakedness to meet the storms of these pitiless times. To the absence of those people much of the misery of Ireland is attributable, but heavy in all probability will be its re-action on themselves, for their shameful negligence of those to whom they owe their means of living, and their cruel and thoughtless abandonment of them—but to our purpose—

Families are represented as ASHAMED of making their wants public, and pining away in private. "The patience of this afflicted people is unequalled in the history of mankind; Dying of hunger, without committing any excess worthy of notice, with the fever in

Limerick increasing." The peasantry were so reduced for want of food, that they have been constantly seen eating the vegetable productions of the hedges, leaves of trees, and devouring the green corn in fields.

Need we add more to rouse public sympathy? need we urge any further claim to your pity than "pestilence and famine."—And are we to forget how largely the Irish have contributed to our national glory! how they have manned our fleets and marched in our armies—purchasing at the price of their blood that character which has given Britain such a preponderance in the scale of nations.—We feel assured that we do not appeal in vain, but that the glorious example which has been set us at home will be followed here—necessarily less in extent, but equal in cordiality. The history of Ireland presents one volume of misery, and though we may not have it in our power materially to lessen her distresses, yet what a grateful source of consolation will be the reflection that we have cheated even one poor heart into a momentary forgetfulness of sorrow.—There are some strokes of calamity that sear and scorch the soul—that penetrate the vital seat of happiness—and blast it never again to put forth bud or blossom—such must have been the feelings of some of those unfortunates, with the consciousness that if they subdued the fever they must fall victims to hunger—of those in whose behalf we now solicit that charity which is the very bond of peace and of all virtues—which blesses both the giver and receiver.—How easy is it for one benevolent being to diffuse pleasure around him, and how truly is a kind heart a fountain of gladness, making every thing in its vicinity to freshen into smiles.—Blessed is the man who feedeth the hungry; and there is a recording Angel to note down every act of that mercy which is the first great attribute of the Deity.—Will it be no source of grateful exultation to our suffering Brethren to reflect that neither time nor distance have rendered us callous to their misfortunes nor deaf to their cries—no gratification to the poor Irishman that he

"Claims kindred men, and has his claims allowed."

We feel assured that the subject will enter deeply into every generous bosom—and that a subscription will be commenced upon without a loss of time.—Has not Ireland a claim on our gratitude? Is she not dearer to us by her misfortunes? let it not be said, that there is not a pitying eye able to weep for her calamities, or a friendly hand to record her struggles.—We are called upon not only as men, but as christians, not only as christians but as subjects,—by our duty and allegiance to the UNITED KINGDOM—by those principles of charity which are the distinguishing characteristic of a Briton to manifest on the present occasion "a generous feeling of compatriot woes."

*Mr. Canning.*—It is said that H. M. Ship JUPITER, of 60 guns, Captain Thomas Briggs, is to be commissioned for the purpose of bringing out Mr. Canning, our new Governor General.

*Shipping.*—The damage done to the Shipping by storms last winter seems unparalleled in the memory of man.—It is calculated that about 2,000 ships and 20,000 men have perished on the several coasts of Europe, of which 250 ships and 2,500 men were lost on the Danish coast alone.

*Regiment.*—The 44th Regiment of Foot, stationed at Chatham, it is expected would embark at Gravesend for India, the latter end of May.

Detachments of the 30th, 54th, 69th, and 89th Regiments, consisting of seven officers, and 110 men, had arrived at Chatham from the Isle of Wight, to be in readiness to proceed to Gravesend, where they will embark for Madras, to join their respective corps.—*Madras Gazette.*

*Bombay, Aug. 28, 1822.*—A report is in circulation, that information has been received in this Country from respectable authority at home, that the ultimatum of England, France, and Austria to Russia, was—that her forcibly possessing herself of Moldavia and Wallachia would be considered as the commencement of war. No reply had been received from Russia—but it had been ascertained, that immediately on the determination of the allied Powers being known at St. Petersburg, the Emperor Alexander had set out to join his troops on the frontiers.—*Bombay Gazette.*

*London, May 6, 1822.*—Many of the innkeepers in the three towns have reduced the price of strong beer to 4d. and 5d. per quart.—*Plymouth Telegraph.*

*Shipwrecks.*—To the melancholy list of shipwrecks, on the coast of Ireland, in the disastrous night of the 21st ult. we have to add the schooner FLY Corbett, master, from St. Michael's, bound to Bristol. She was wrecked off the signal-tower of Ballymacoster, when all on board perished.—The UNITY, of Glasgow and the ANGO, of Whitehaven, were both lost near Castletown, on the Irish coast, during the same night; when all on board both vessels perished, and the hulls, &c. were dashed to pieces.

On the night previous to the loss of the CONFIDENCE the wife of the Master was heard to shriek in her sleep, and on being awoken, said she dreamt her husband was drowned. The same incident occurred three times during the night, and each time she stated that she had the same dream.—*Dublin Paper.*

Amongst other new inventions advertised, we perceive that of a patent portable stable and riding-house.

*Fire.*—On Thursday evening the whole of the buildings in the farm-yard of Mr. Tooley, of Brightwell, near Wallingford, Berks, together with eight wheatsheaves, several bean and straw stacks, barns, stables, &c. were destroyed by fire. The property, worth near £3000., was insured.—It is conjectured that the fire was occasioned by an incendiary.

*Reduction of Taxes.*—The notice given by Ministers of a further intended reduction of Taxes to the amount of near £2,000,000, per annum, forcibly draws the public attention to the subject. The following are extracts from observations on the Salt Tax, which appear in the EDINBURGH REVIEW, just published:

*Salt Tax.*—We doubt whether, among all the countless multitude of taxes with which the people of Britain are oppressed, it is possible to name another so objectionable as this. Salt is one of the prime necessaries of life; and, owing to its being indispensable to the curing of meat, butter, cheese, &c. it is consumed in considerably greater quantities by the poor than by the wealthy classes. And yet this necessary is loaded with a duty which amounts, at the very least, to 30 or 32 times its natural price! Were it not for the duty of 1s. Salt might be purchased for four-pence, or at most six pence a bushel. With the single exception of Poland, England has the richest Salt Mines in Europe; and yet the price of Salt is higher there than in any other part of the World. The rapacity of the Treasury has rendered the bounty of Providence productive only of misery and crime. Notwithstanding the vigilance of the Excise-Officer, and notwithstanding the severity of the Revenue Laws, and their endless consequence of bonds, penalties, forfeitures, and so forth, there can be no doubt of the fact, that only about one-third of the Salt consumed in England pays duty. The price of the whole is factitiously enhanced, but the contributions of the public are divided between the Crown and the smuggler; and while an army of Excise-Officers collects the high duty on about 50,000 tons, the Smuggler receives a lower,

though still a very high duty on about 100,000 tons. It is plain, therefore, that, exclusive of the sum (£500,000) which the Salt Duties bring into the coffers of the Treasury, they cannot take less than an additional million and a half from the industrious classes, for the benefit of mere thieves and plunderers.

The present exorbitant duties on Salt do not merely degrade the condition of the labourer, and stimulate him to embark in the predatory and lawless career of the Smuggler—a career which almost always conducts to the gallows—but they are exceedingly injurious to some of the principal branches of the national industry. In spite of the immense sums that have been lavished on the fisheries in bounties, premiums, drawbacks, &c. they never have attained to any considerable degree of prosperity; and it may safely be affirmed, that they never will attain to any, so long as the present Salt Laws are supported. There are so many expensive, teasing, and vexatious Custom House regulations to go through, and so much risk, delay, and inconvenience, must be encountered of getting "Fishery Salt," or "Salt duty free," that many Fishers rather prefer using Salt for which they pay the ordinary duties. Mr. Carter, one of the principal Fishers in London, concludes a very distinct account of the injurious effects resulting to the Fisheries from the Salt Duties, by stating "that if, under the present difficulties and discouragements, our Fisheries have continued to exist at all, their increase would be much as could hardly be estimated, if they were emancipated by the abolition of the Salt Duties." And Mr. Macdonald the well-informed Author of the Survey of the Hebrides, states, that "owing to the want of Salt, many thousand barrels of the finest herrings in the world are lost every week during the fishing season."

Tuesday evening the Dean and Chapter of St. Paul's, with the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Lord Chancellor, Lord Liverpool, Lord Sidmouth, the Marquis of Lansdowne, the Bishop of London, Sir Chas. Long, the Right Hon. N. Vansittart, the Marchioness of Lansdowne, Miss Vansittart, and several ladies of distinction, visited the Cathedral of St. Paul's, on the occasion of its being first lighted with gas. The effect was strikingly beautiful.

The Established Country Bankers are said to have taken some alarm at the new project for extending the numbers of partners. Broad-bottomed joint-stock Banking concerns, may now start up in every town.

There are several fellows now travelling the country, circulating notes of Tanton Bank of the firm of Sheppard and Co. which has stopped payment for several years, obliterating by some kind of acid the original dates and signatures, and substituting others.

There was a large supply of both fat and lean stock exhibited at Calne fair on Monday last; and fat beef sold at from 7s. to 8s. per score. There was a free demand for good cows and calves, and they obtained rather better prices. More money was also demanded for grazing stock, but the dealers not acceding to the demand, a great number were driven back unsold.

The 58th Regiment, Colonel Campbell, have landed this week, at Gosport Barracks, from Jamaica.

The WILLIAM and MARY transport, which brought home a part of the 58th Regiment, from Jamaica, experienced all the severity of the tremendous hurricane which blew from the S. W. on the 21st ult. but escaped any of its destructive effects. So alarming was the situation of the ship for three successive days, that the troops and passengers were obliged to be kept below during that time; and, whilst in this state of apprehension that the ship would sink from the dreadfully agitated state of the sea and the atmosphere, an alarm was given that some part of the ship was on fire. The lively and more acute feelings of dread and terror succeeded, and most, lest the troops should break the rules of subordination, and force their way to the deck. Providentially, however, the storm abated before they learnt of their new situation; when it appeared, on examination, that the fire had been occasioned by the constant collision of the iron hoops round two casks, which had been kept up by the uneasy motion of the ship; but, it having consumed one of the casks, proceeded no further! There were several ladies, passengers, on board, whose anxiety and alarm may be in some degree imagined.—*Hampshire Telegraph, May 6, 1822.*

*London, May 7, 1822.*—We mentioned yesterday the sudden departure of Mr. Goulburn for Ireland. THE FREEMAN'S JOURNAL of Saturday announces his arrival in Dublin on Friday and adds, that “the famine in the south-west of the island is understood to be the cause of his sudden and early return.” There is no further account of the state of the country in the Dublin Papers of Saturday. No favourable inference, however, can be drawn from this circumstance. The tale of misery is left untold for the day, to make room for the report of the debate on Mr. Canning's motion. The price of corn has risen in the Dublin market, in consequence of the scarcity of provisions in the south-west of the country.—*Globe.*

*Agricultural Distress.*—The Marquis of Londonderry's pawn-breaking plan of lending a million sterling upon a deposit of corn for the relief of agricultural distress, was, after a long discussion withdrawn last night in the House of Commons. It appears, however, that it was only his Lordship's child by adoption, and that Mr. Irving, the real but unnatural father, when appealed to for support, came reluctantly forward with a very feeble effort.

The licensing system also came under the consideration of the House, on a petition presented by Mr. Huskisson. It was admitted on all sides that the present system is very defective; that great abuses take place under it; and that some remedy is become absolutely necessary.

*Dresden, April 20.*—A marriage is talked of between Prince John and a Princess of a German House, which has been for a long time allied with our reigning House (probably Austria.)

*Sutgard, April 28.*—Letters received direct from the Morea by Trieste confirm the intelligence of the arrival of General Normann. The Greeks have appointed him Commandant of Navarin.

*Carlsruhe, April 27.*—General Count Woronzow passed through here yesterday, returning from Paris, and has proceeded with all speed to Odessa.—*Frankfort Paper, April 30.*

*Madame Catalani's Second Concert.*—On Wednesday night (May,) Madame Catalani's Second Concert was given at the Argilli Rooms. The performance began at nine o'clock, but at eight the room was completely filled, and no space was left even for standing. The Subscribers were then admitted into the boxes, which immediately received more than their complement. The company still continued to arrive, and were at length passed into the orchestra, where at least one hundred and fifty elegantly dressed people were provided with the best accommodation that could be furnished. The *emp d'ail* of such an assemblage was as brilliant as novel, though the crowd certainly incommoded the performers, and we believe occupied some of their places. The audience, however, were in excellent temper, and seemed highly delighted with so unique a Concert. Mad. Catalani displayed her admirable powers in several pieces, and terminated the performance by “God save the King,” which was loudly encored. To aid her, Mademoiselle Caradori, and Signors Curioni and Piacci were engaged, who sang some pieces with good effect. But the grand attraction was, and will be, the chauntress herself, who has thus again manifested her miraculous power in drawing greater numbers to hear her, individually, than are collected by a host of performers at any Concert in London.

*Scottish Music.*—We congratulate the Musical world on Mr. Marshall's determination to publish his Music. He has been long known and admired as a first-rate Composer,—and while a taste for Scottish Music exists, his Melodies and Strathspeys will hold a distinguished place in the estimation of the best judges. His merits were duly appreciated by Burns the Poet, who, in his Reliques, designates Mr. Marshall as “the best composer of Strathspeys of the age;” and the Poet, by adapting the words of his admirable Song “Of a' the airts the win can blow,” to Marshall's beautiful Air, “Miss Admiral Gordon's Strathspey,” has immortalized both the Music and the Song. The venerable and Reverend Mr. Skinner, author of *Tulbehgorum*, has done no less justice to “The Marquis of Huntly's Reel.” But Mr. Marshall's Music needed not the names of those distinguished Poets to establish its celebrity; to those of the fair sex, who

are either performers or amateurs, its excellence has been long familiar; and there are few of either sex in the United Kingdom, who have not been enraptured by the delightful strains of “Kinrara”—“The Marquis of Huntly's Farewell”—“The Marchioness of Cornwallis”—and many others of Mr. Marshall's composition, of equal beauty and pathos.

*Plymouth, May 9.*—Arrived the THOMAS and MARY transport, with part of the 72nd Regiment, from Portsmouth.—Yesterday the Portland frigate, to carry 60 guns, was launched here; she was christened by Lady Cochrane.—Mr. H. Hodder, of the Pigmy, is promoted to the rank of Master, and appointed to the Racehorse.—A considerable quantity of potatoes and oats is now shipping from this port and the neighbourhood, for the South of Ireland.

We understand that it is intended to call a Meeting of the Parish of Portsea, to petition against Mr. Scarlett's Bill for preventing the Removal of the Poor, which, in its principle, abrogates the present Law of Settlement, and allows the poor to claim relief in whatever place they may chance to be; and, consequently, will prove very injurious to every large town in the kingdom. The principle of this Bill was formerly petitioned against with success by the Parish.

*The Irish Window Tax.*—The following communication was received yesterday (Monday, the 6th of May,) by the Proprietors of THE LIMERICK CHRONICLE.—

“Sirs,—I am happy to have it in my power to acquaint the inhabitants of Limerick, through your Paper, that there is every reason to feel confident that they may be relieved from the pressure of the Window Tax.—I am, Sirs, your most obedient Servant.

*London, May 2, 1822.*

T. SPRING RICE.

*Trieste, April 20.*—An Official Bulletin is in circulation here dated 20th March, drawn up in the modern Greek language, and countersigned by the Greek Minister Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, V. Karadja. It gives particulars of the several victories said to have been gained by the Greek fleet over the Turks. According to the official report of the Senate, the Turkish fleet is said to be nearly destroyed, only twenty-three small ships having escaped by the aid of the English. The Turkish troops landed at Patras are stated to have been defeated by the brave Colocotroni, and all the Turkish Commanders to be taken prisoners. As soon as these important advantages were gained, the victorious Greek fleet is said to have sailed back to the Archipelago, and to spread general alarm in those seas.—*Allgemeine Zeitung, April 30.*

*Spanish Papers.*—Madrid Papers to the 25th ultimo, arrived yesterday morning. They are chiefly composed of accounts tending to show the complete conviction of the Spaniards of the encouragement afforded in France to the *Servile* insurgents.

*Madrid, April 23.*—We have authentic information from the frontiers, from which it appears that the Spanish refugees at Bayonne are in continual motion, and that they think of landing arms on the coast of Biscay. It is stated that the Authorities are acquainted with this intention, and are prepared to frustrate it.

Smugglers have introduced, by the frontier of Navarre, 40 or 50 chests of arms and ammunition.

It is affirmed that Colonel Nunez Abreu is the depositary of the funds which Equia (the ex-general) has at his disposal, and which are said to be considerable. The coffers are in the house of Nunez.

Quesada always accompanies Equia. A corporal and six soldiers, who had deserted, presented themselves to Equia, who ordered them to repair to Bordeaux, where they were told a Spanish regiment was forming, with which they would return to Spain.

Two persons from Bilbao, who, at the persuasion of Equia, have accepted the captains' commissions which he sent them, have also been desired to go to Bordeaux.

## Ireland.—Distress of the Poor.

The accounts received to-day from the West, regarding the sufferings of the people from a deficiency of food, are deplorable. In the county of Mayo one case of starvation has actually occurred; and the great mass of the peasantry are unable to procure a sufficiency to preserve animal existence. It does not appear that there is any absolute scarcity of provisions, but the potatoes being consumed, they can only be procured in the market, and there is no money to purchase. Oatmeal is quoted in Castlebar at 20s. per cwt. or about 2d. per lb. Two pounds of meal will support a man for one day. Beef is quoted at 4d. per lb. These prices shew that it is the scarcity of money, and not of food, which distresses the people. On the 1st of May a meeting was held at Westport for relieving the poor, and the sum of 800l. was subscribed, of which the Marquis of Sligo contributed 320l.

From Galway we learn that "every moment increases more and more the distress of the poor. It is not to a general deficiency that this extreme necessity has arisen, is evident by the prices in distant markets, but to the unpropitious weather in this part of the kingdom last year. Thousands, who sowed every season sufficient for their domestic consumption, owing to the failure of their crops, are now sent destitute to roam in search of food; and hundreds die along the coast, from the effects of eating shell fish and a species of sea weed, which they endeavour to subsist upon. That there is plenty of nutritious food in the country, the stocks in the hands of factors declare; but the want of employment, and no money in circulation, prevents the poor from obtaining any relief."

In the west of the county of Clare, many families are actually living on the poultry, and limiting themselves to a hen or a duck in the 24 hours, joined to whatever adventitious aid chance may afford. There are families in this quarter, who never knew or felt want, who are ashamed of making it public, pining away in private. The patience of this afflicted people is unequalled in the history of mankind; dying of hunger, without committing any excess worthy of notice. A soup kitchen has been established at Ennis, for supplying the poor, and its utility will extend in proportion to the amount of subscriptions.

In Limerick, the fever is increasing, and it is said to be very virulent—several have died in the hospital within these few days.

In the county of Cork, the peasantry are also suffering from the deficiency of food, that is, as we have already stated, from the want of money.

In the Carlow market, on Thursday, oats rose to 13s. per barrel; and potatoes to 7s. 9d.

In the northern counties there is no appearance of distress of any kind. In a large tract of country, embracing Longford and Leitrim on the Shannon, to Antrim and Down on the sea-coast, or nearly one-fourth of Ireland, the poor farmers and cottiers have generally a good supply of meat and potatoes for the season. The ARMAGH VOLUNTEER says, "we are convinced that the quantity of meal now in store in the northern counties, would, of itself, afford a sufficiency for next year's supply, if even a total failure were to occur in the oat crop of this season."

The state of what is termed, the *famine* in Ireland, seems to be this—the poorer classes in the West and South rely on the potatoe crop for their sole subsistence. Any money they earn defrays their rent and clothes. The crop failed last season in consequence of rain and floods; there is no demand for labour in the country, and hence, the people cannot obtain money to purchase other kinds of food. To relieve them from this sad state of wretchedness, it is necessary to create a demand for labour, and we learn that Government is willing to advance a large sum for the erection or repair of public works, such as roads, bridges, harbours, &c. in conjunction with subscriptions from those more immediately interested in such undertaking. There is no other practicable mode of employing the poor, with national advantage, and we trust that the great landed Proprietors, with the Clergy and Gentry, will come forward liberally on this distressing occasion. In London, meetings have been for this purpose, and no doubt, large subscriptions will be obtained from that quarter.

It is melancholy to read the state of the Irish peasantry in the papers received last week, from which we make the following extracts:

*State of the Poor.*—The provincial papers of the south and west are loaded with the most melancholy details, not only of the distress and starvation of the poor in several counties of Munster and Connacht, but also of the state of destitution to which the landlords are reduced. We select the following paragraphs from some of these papers.—*Dublin Evening Post*, April 25.

It is stated from unquestionable authority, that seven persons died last week in the neighbourhood of Killydesart from actual want. The streets of Ennis are lined with labourers and tradespeople, who stand leaning against the houses, their arms folded, and despair in their countenances. In conversing with some of them, they tell me they have from one to six acres of land, with a cabin, but their potatoes having failed, they have neither present food nor seed for the next season; they have left their land waste, and have, with their families, become wanderers through the country.—*Galway Advertiser*.

In truth it can no longer be concealed—even if there was any good reason for doing so—that, what with the failure of the last potatoe crop, the total want of employment throughout the country, and the low prices of every description of agricultural produce, not only is one class threatened with an absolute want of food, but the other has before it the prospect of an entire abstraction of rents, and the consequent inability on their part, either to relieve the sufferings of the poor, or contribute to the payment of the revenue.—*Cork Southern Reporter*.

The same paper of Tuesday last states, "that a family, consisting of five persons, having no means of getting a morsel to eat, locked themselves up in a room, determined to suffer under the pangs of hunger sooner than go out to beg; one of them, a young girl, not able to endure with the rest, rushed into the street, and from a stand snatched a piece of raw bacon, which she ate before the owner. On telling the tale the house was searched, and four of the family were found to have perished with hunger!"

## The Liberty of the Subject.

COURT OF CHANCERY, TUESDAY, APRIL 30, 1822.

Mr. CHING asked if his Lordship would permit him to make an application, which in its consequences materially involved the liberty of the subject? It was that his Lordship would be pleased to read and take into his consideration the petition of a person named John Comely, committed for contempt of Court to the custody of the Warden of the Fleet prison, where he had now been immured for these last three years. At the end of this period, however, the present applicant had presented a petition to the Vice-Chancellor to be released. His Honour had read the petition, and had therupon ordered that the matter should stand over for a week, in order that the party at whose instance he was committed might have an opportunity to file affidavits to oppose him. A week elapsed, when yesterday morning the case again came before the Court, and affidavits he would not deny were produced by his friend, Mr. Heald, on the part of the plaintiff, but they were neither filed nor read; upon these imperfect, he would say illegal affidavits, his Honour did, without even allowing to the petitioner the opportunity of reply, or assigning any reason thereon, order that John Comely should be remanded, and that his petition should stand over until the first day of Michaelmas term. It now became, the Learned Gentleman observed, his painful though urgent duty to inquire why, upon affidavits, the forms of which were illegal, and the contents unknown, the petitioner was to suffer a fresh imprisonment? How did it consist with justice, he would ask, that an individual should be deprived of his liberty for such a period on the strength of an affidavit which had not been filed, and which, therefore, was invalid in point of law—an affidavit, for the contents of which, however mistated, and false and malicious, the party was not amenable to law, the petitioner being thereby deprived of his action for perjury? Was it consonant with liberty, that a subject should be charged with matters of which he was kept in ignorance, and even incarcerated on the credit of those statements, without being allowed to reply? How was it to be reconciled with humanity, that he should suffer six months additional imprisonment in consequence of statements contained in affidavits, of the purport of which, they not having been read in open Court, he was entirely unacquainted, and consequently unable to answer? It did appear to him exceedingly harsh that, upon a purely *ex parte* statement, for such he must designate it, this person should be remanded to his dungeon for six tedious months (and the Court would bear in mind, not for any actually criminal offence), to subsist, or rather to drag out a miserable existence on the prison allowance of 4d. per day. On the present individual such a sentence bore peculiarly hard: he was an agricultural labourer, having aged parents, and a numerous family, depending on his exertions for their support: at this season of the year, therefore, his presence was required in the country. The statement of these facts, the Learned Gentleman continued, would, he trusted, be his excuse for thus voluntarily and gratuitously coming forward; and they would, he hoped, prove sufficient inducement for his Lordship to judge it right to interfere. If his Lordship was satisfied that this unfortunate person had received a punishment commensurate with or exceeding his offence, he had no doubt, from his uniform benevolence towards those persons who sought his protection, that he would cause him to be released; but if on the contrary the Court thought that the ends of justice required his further imprisonment, he must bow to that decision. At all events he could not do better than leave it in his Lordship's hands.

The LORD CHANCELLOR.—No order can be made on affidavits that have not been filed.

Mr. CHING.—So I conceive, my Lord, and I cannot imagine upon what grounds his Honour, the Vice-Chancellor, has come to such a decision.

The LORD CHANCELLOR.—As this is a case in which the liberty of the subject is materially effected, so as little delay as is possible should take place, therefore, that the other party may not be taken by surprise mention the subject, at the next Sitting of the Court (Thursday).

Mr. CHING.—Will your Lordship give me leave to mention it previous to the business of the day being entered upon?

His Lordship bowed assent.—Application granted.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

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### Gold and Silver Coinage.

We have been favoured with the following very curious and authentic details of the forms observed in ascertaining the purity of our Gold and Silver Coin. We are persuaded, they will be perused with great interest by a large portion of our readers, to whom the particulars of this ancient practice cannot be familiar. The "Trial" took place last Saturday, (April 27) but we could find no room for the account before to-day.

#### TRIAL OF THE PIX.

On Saturday last, the 27th of April, the Right Honorable the Lord Chancellor, attended by four other of his Majesty's Honorable Privy Council, viz. Lord Maryborough, Master of the Mint, Lord Stowell, Lord Harrowby, and the Chancellor of the Exchequer, assembled in the Duchy of Lancaster Court, at Westminster, to swear in a Jury of Goldsmiths, for the purpose of their examining into the quality of the gold and silver coin made between May 1818, and June 1821, during which period the largest amount of Gold money was coined that is upon record in this country, the sum being no less than 10,473,249l. which, added to the silver coined within the same short period, makes a total of upwards of thirteen millions pounds sterling.

The jury were selected from the Worshipful Company of Goldsmiths, and was composed of the following gentlemen:—

Robert Makepeace, Esq. Foreman.	John Robinson, Esq.
William Newcombe, Esq.	Samuel Thomas, Esq.
John Harker, Esq.	Richard Brook, Esq.
Thomas Hayter, Esq.	William Bateman, Esq.
John Brodhead, Esq.	Philip Gilbert, Esq.
Edmund Rundell, Esq.	John G. Bridge, Esq.
Samuel Haynes, Esq.	

The Lord Chancellor arrived at nine o'clock, and proceeded, in a most impressive manner, to charge the Jury. We lament our inability to do justice to the able and eloquent address of his Lordship, which was in substance as follows:—

"GENTLEMEN.—You are assembled on behalf of the King and his people, to inquire into the due performance of an indenture entered into between his Majesty the King, and the Right Hon. Lord Maryborough, Master of the Mint.

"This inquiry will embrace an examination of the fineness and purity of all the gold and silver monies coined between the 13th of June, 1818, and the 31st of December, 1821, during which period the immense and unprecedented sum of 10,473,249l. Is. 8d. gold coin has been delivered into the office of receipt of the said Mint, and of silver coin 2,719,926l. between the 21st of May, 1818, and the 31st of December, 1821.

"This mode of inquiry, Gentlemen, has existed so long, and is of such ancient institution, as to render it perhaps impossible to state with any precision, when it commenced; but of one thing we are certain, that while different States have adopted different modes of satisfying the public concerning the purity of their respective coins, the British public have never been satisfied with any thing short of the application of the invaluable principle of trial by jury.

"In the performance of this duty, it is very evident, that a large portion of your time will be consumed, and that much skill, added to much circumspection, will be necessary.

"The object of your inquiry, and the consequences of your verdict, it is almost unnecessary for me to advert to; for by the indenture entered into by the Master of the Mint with the Crown, it will appear that the King ordains what the standard of the coin of these realms shall be, and your verdict will determine whether that indenture has been duly performed.

"The indenture proceeds to state, that upon a reasonable warning, the pix or box shall be opened, and such monies as had been delivered as good, shall be subjected to the ordeal of fire, touch, water, or weight. Should you find them good, you will say so, upon which the Crown will grant to the Master of the Mint its letters patent of ease. Should your inquiries lead you to a contrary conclusion, you will report accordingly, for before the Crown will grant the release of the Master of the Mint, your consciences must be satisfied that the cash of the present day is equal in purity to British cash in the best of British times.

"It will not, I trust, be considered as travelling out of my way to allude to an important proceeding which the legislature deemed it necessary to adopt. I mean the cessation of cash payments for a season. Subsequent events have, however, convinced every one that Government only interfered, or sacrificed, the blessings of our happy Constitution, for a time, in order to preserve it for ever,

"And you cannot fail, Gentlemen, upon opening the pix or box, to receive the most agreeable emotions upon witnessing the superscription of a gracious Monarch upon the coins submitted to your trial, and not that of a tyrant, reigning over subjects little better than slaves.

"You will now commence your important proceedings, and will no doubt discharge your duty to both the King and his people."

The Jury then proceeded to the rooms purposely prepared for their reception in the Exchequer, and it may not be uninteresting to our readers to be informed of the process used in this most important inquiry, the more so, as this is the largest coinage performed in this or any other country, within the same period of time.

The practice of his Majesty's Mint, and which has existed from time immemorial, is to divide its operations into divisions of fifteen pounds troy weight of gold, which fifteen pounds weight of gold is called a "Journey."

One sovereign is then taken from each journey or fifteen pounds weight so coined, and is carefully wrapped in paper, sealed by three of the principal officers of the Mint, and deposited in the pix, which has also three locks, the paper being endorsed with the date of its delivery.

There have been instances within the period of this inquiry, where upwards of 200 journeys have been delivered in one day, and consequently upwards of 200 sovereigns put in one packet into the pix or box, they being synonymous terms. From what has been stated, the number of sovereigns put into the pix are consequently the same as the number of journeys, or fifteen pounds weight coined, and in the present inquiry, the number of sovereigns in the pix was 14,852, the same being representative of the like number of journeys of 15 pounds weight of gold coined into sovereigns.

The Jury being assembled, the Principal Officers of his Majesty's Mint opened the box, and with great solemnity, delivered it into the custody of the Jury, who instantly took an account of, and opened, every parcel contained therein, taking one sovereign from each paper.

Those so taken were then, in the presence of the Jury, melted into two ingots, from whence small pieces were cut for the purpose of assaying, or undergoing, a chymical decomposition, in order to ascertain the proportion of pure gold, as well as of alloy, in any given quantity.

At the same time was produced, by the proper Officer of his Majesty's Exchequer, a "trial piece of gold," which was there deposited in October, 1658, as of the true standard of twenty-two parts gold and two parts alloy. This piece bears the guinea impression of King James the Second, on one of its corners; it was of considerable weight when first deposited, but is now much reduced in size, from the number of assay pieces taken from it by the pix juries which have been successively held within the last hundred and thirty-four years.

From this trial piece, as from the ingots of melted sovereigns, two small assay pieces are cut, and being of equal weight with the pieces cut from the sovereigns, they are separately subjected to the power of fire and of acids, for the purpose of destroying every particle of alloy, and producing purely fine gold.

The fine or pure gold being produced, it is obvious, that in the most delicate balance, the weight of the fine gold produced from the sovereigns, should exactly agree with the weight of the fine gold produced from the Exchequer trial piece.

The practical knowledge of the leading Officers of his Majesty's Mint, combined with their pre-eminent scientific attainments, are known and confessed by every Mint in Europe. Yet with conscious integrity, added to those qualities, it may be reasonably supposed, that the moment in which the assay piece taken from the coin is opposed in the opposite balance, to that taken from the trial piece, is to them a moment, if not of anxiety, at least of eager expectation.

In the present inquiry, the nicest balance, or scale, could discover no difference, and the points in the centre of the beam came in contact at the points of two fine needles, thereby enabling the Jury to return a verdict, that the coin was as good as the King had ordained, and the Right Honourable the Master of the Mint undertaken, that it should be.

These facts and observations apply, with slight and unimportant variations, to the silver as to the gold coin.

These operations employed the Jury from nine in the morning till five in the evening, when they returned from the Exchequer to Goldsmiths' Hall, the Lord Chancellor having very kindly condescended to receive their verdict at the latter place; after which his Lordship, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Lord Maryborough, Master of the Mint, Lord Harrowby, and Lord Stowell, honoured the Wardens of the Company and Jury with their company at dinner, to which were also invited the Principal Officers of his Majesty's Mint, the number who sat down being about thirty five.

After the health of his Majesty had been given, the Duke of York and Royal Family, with appropriate and grateful feeling, to the Navy and Army, the Lord Chancellor gave the healths of the Jury, at the same time thanking them for the ability and industry they had displayed in the discharge of the high and important duty intrusted to them.—*Courier, May 4.*

Singular Discovery Respecting Friction.

FROM THE PHILOSOPHICAL JOURNAL, APRIL 1822.

*Description of the Slide of Alpnach.* By the late John Playfair, Esq., Professor of Natural Philosophy in the University of Edinburgh, Sec. and R. S. E.\*. With Notes and Observations.

"On the south side of Pilatus, a considerable mountain near Lucerne, are great forests of spruce fir, consisting of the finest timber, but in a situation which the height, the steepness, and the ruggedness of the ground, seemed to render inaccessible. They had rarely been visited but by the chamois hunters, and it was from them, indeed, that the first information concerning the size of the trees and the extent of the forest appears to have been received. These woods are in the canton of Unterwalden, one of those in which the ancient spirit of the Swiss republics is the best preserved; where the manners are extremely simple, the occupation of the people mostly those of agriculture, where, there are no manufactures, little accumulation of capital, and no commercial enterprise. In the possession of such masters, the lofty firs of Pilatus were likely to remain long the ornaments of their native mountain.

"A few years ago, however, Mr Rupp, a native of Württemberg, and a skilful engineer, in which profession he had been educated, indignant at the political changes effected in his own country, was induced to take refuge among a free people, and came to settle in the canton of Schwyz, on the opposite side of the lake of Lucerne. The accounts which he heard there of the forest just mentioned determined him to visit it, and he was so much struck by its appearance, that, long and rugged as the descent was, he conceived the bold project of bringing down the trees by no other force than their own weight into the lake of Lucerne, from which the conveyance to the German Ocean was easy and expeditious. A more accurate survey of the ground convinced him of the practicability of the project.

"He had by this time resided long enough in Switzerland to have both his talents and integrity in such estimation, that he was able to prevail on a number of the proprietors to form a company, with a joint stock, to be laid out in the purchase of the forest, and in the construction of the road along which it was intended that the trees should slide down into the lake of Lucerne, an arm or griph of which fortunately approaches quite near to the bottom of the mountain. The sum required for this purpose was very considerable for that country, amounting to nine or ten thousand pounds; three thousand to be laid out on the purchase of the forest, from the community of Alpnach, the proprietors of it, and the rest being necessary for the construction of the singular railway by which the trees were to be brought down. In a country where there is little enterprise, few capitalists, and where he was himself a stranger, this was not the least difficult part of Mr Rupp's undertaking.

"The distance which the trees had to be conveyed is about three of the leagues of that country, or, more exactly, 46,000 feet. The medium height of the forest is about 2500 feet; (which measure I took from General Pfyffer's model of the Alps, and not from any actual measurement of my own). The horizontal distance just mentioned, when reduced to English-measure, making allowance for the Swiss foot, is 44,252 feet, eight English miles and about three furlongs. The declivity is therefore one foot in 17. 68; the medium angle of elevation 3° 14' 20".

"This declivity, though so moderate on the whole, is, in many places, very rapid; at the beginning the inclination is about one-fourth of a right angle, or about 22° 30'; in many places it is 20°, but nowhere greater than the angle first mentioned, 22° 30'. The declivity continues of this quantity for about 500 feet, after which the way is less steep, and often considerably circuitous, according to the directions which the ruggedness of the ground forces it to take.

"Along this line the trees descend, in a sort of trough, built in a cradle form, and extending from the forest to the edge of the lake. Three trees, squared, and laid side by side, form the bottom of the trough; the tree in the middle having its surface hollowed, so that a rill of water received from distance to distance, over the side of the trough, may be conveyed along the bottom and preserve it moist. Adjoining to the central part, (of the trough,) other trees, also squared, are laid parallel to the former, in such a manner as to form a trough, rounded in the interior, and of such dimensions as to allow the largest tree to lie, or to move along quite readily. When the direction of the trough turns or has any bending, of which there are many, its sides are made higher and stronger, especially on the convex side, or that from which it bends, so as to provide against the trees bolting or flying out, which they sometimes do, in spite of every precaution. In general, the trough is from

\* From his Works, in four volumes octavo, just published vol. i., Appendix No. 2, p. lxxxix. See this Journal, Vol. I. p. 193, and Vol. II. p. 110.

five to six feet wide at top, and from three to four in depth, varying, however in different places, according to circumstances.

"This singular road has been constructed at considerable expence; though, as it goes, almost for its whole length, through a forest, the materials of construction were at hand, and of small value. It contains, we are told thirty thousand trees; it is, in general, supported on cross timbers, that are themselves supported by uprights fixed in the ground; and these cross timbers are sometimes close to the surface; they are occasionally under it, and sometimes elevated to a great height above it. It crosses in its way three great ravines, one at the height of 64 feet, another at the height of 103, and the third, where it goes along the face of a rock, at that of 157; in two places it is conveyed under ground. It was finished in 1812.

"The trees which descend by this conveyance are spruce firs very straight, and of great size. All their branches are lopped off; they are stripped of the bark and the surface, of course made tolerably smooth. The trees, or logs, of which the trough is built, are dressed with the axe, but without much care.

"All being thus prepared the tree is launched with the root end foremost, into the steep part of the trough, and in a few seconds acquires such a velocity as enables it to reach the lake in the short space of six minutes; a result altogether astonishing, when it is considered that the distance is more than eight miles, that the average declivity is but one foot in seventeen, and that the route which the trees have to follow is often circuitous, and in some places almost horizontal.

"Where large bodies are moved with such velocity as has now been described, and so tremendous a force of course produced, every thing had need to be done with the utmost regularity; every obstacle carefully removed that can obstruct the motion or that might suffer by so fearful a collision. Every thing accordingly, with regard to launching off the trees, is directed by telegraphic signals. All along the side, men are stationed, at different distances, from half a mile to three quarters, or more, but so that every station may be seen from the next, both above and below. At each of these stations, also, is a telegraph, consisting of a large board like a door, that turns at its middle on a horizontal axle. When the board is placed upright, it is seen from the two adjacent stations; when it is turned horizontally, or rather parallel to the surface of the ground, it is invisible from both. When the tree is launched from the top, a signal is made, by turning the board upright; the same is followed by the rest, and thus the information is conveyed, almost instantaneously, all along the slide, that a tree is now on its way. By and bye, to any one that is stationed on the side, even to those at a great distance, the same is announced by the roaring of the tree itself, which becomes always louder and louder; the tree comes in sight when it is perhaps half a mile distant, and in an instant after shoots past, with the noise of thunder and the rapidity of lightning. As soon as it has reached the bottom, the lowest telegraph is turned down, the signal passes along all the stations, and the workmen at the top are informed that the tree has arrived in safety. Another is set off as expeditiously as possible; the moment is announced, as before, and the same process is repeated, till all the trees that have been got in readiness for that day have been sent down into the lake.

"When a tree sticks by accident, or when it flies off, a signal is made from the nearest station, by half depressing the board, and the workmen from above and below come to assist in getting out the tree that has stuck, or correcting any thing that is wrong in the slide, from the springing of a beam in the slide; and thus the interruption to the work is rendered as short as possible.

"We saw five trees come down; the place where we stood was near the lower end, and the declivity was inconsiderable, (the bottom of the slide nearly resting on the surface,) yet the trees passed with astonishing rapidity. The greatest of them was a spruce fir a hundred feet long, four feet in diameter at the lower end, and one foot at the upper. The greatest trees are those that descend with the greatest rapidity; and the velocity as well as the roaring of this one was evidently greater than of the rest. A tree must be very large, to descend at all in this manner; a tree, Mr. Rupp informed us that was only half the dimensions of the preceding, and therefore only an eighth part of its weight, would not be able to make its way from the top to the bottom. One of the trees that we saw, broke by some accident into two; the lighter part stopped almost immediately, and the remaining part came to rest soon after. This is a valuable fact: it appears from it that the friction is not in proportion to the weight, but becomes relatively less as the weight increases, contrary to the opinion that it generally received\*.

\* This fact has been long known from the launching of vessels. "Shipbuilders," says M. Bossut, "give only a slope of ten or twelve lines per foot to the planes on which vessels are launched." "This declivity, which is sufficient to put large masses in motion, in spite of the resistance of friction, is too small for weights of moderate magnitude. If we

"In viewing the decent of the trees, my nephew and I stood quite close to the edge of the trough, not being more interested about anything than to experience the impression which the near view of so singular an object must make on a spectator. The noise, the rapidity of the motion, the magnitude of the moving body, and the force with which it seemed to shake the trough as it passed, were altogether very formidable, and conveyed an idea of danger much greater than the reality. Our guide refused to partake of our amusement; he retreated behind a tree at some distance, where he had the consolation to be assured by Mr. Rupp, that he was no safer than we were, at a tree, when it happened to bolt from the trough, would often cut the standing trees clear over. During the whole time the slide had existed, there have been three or four fatal accidents, and one instance was the consequence of excessive temerity.

"I have mentioned that a provision was made for keeping the bottom of the trough wet; this is a very useful precaution; the friction is greatly diminished, and the swiftness is greatly increased by that means. In rainy weather the trees move much faster than in dry. We were assured that when the trough was everywhere in its most perfect condition, in weather wet, and the trees very large, the decent was sometimes made in as short a time as three minutes.

"The trees thus brought down into the Lake of Lucerne are formed into rafts, and floated down the very rapid stream of the Reuss, by which the lake discharges its waters first into the Aar, and then into the Rhine. By this conveyance, which is all of it in streams of great rapidity, the trees sometimes reach Basle, in a few days after they have left Lucerne; and there the immediate concern of the Alpnach company terminates. They still continue to be navigated down the Rhine in rafts to Holland, and are afloat in the German Ocean in less than a month from having descended from the side of Pilatus, a very inland mountain, not less than a thousand miles distant. The late Emperor of France had made a contract for all the timber thus brought down.

"From the phenomena just described, I have deduced several conclusions, of which at present I can only give a very general account, without entering into any of the mathematical reasonings on which they rest.

"1. The rapidity of the decent is so extraordinary, it is so much greater than any thing that could have been anticipated, exceeding that of a horse at full speed, nearly in the ratio of 3 to 2, that the account seems to tread on the very verge of possibility and to touch the line that divides between what may, and what cannot exist. The same question, therefore, I have no doubt, has occurred to many that occurred to myself, when I first heard of this extraordinary phenomenon.

"Is it possible that even if there were no friction, and if a body was accelerated along the line of swiftest descent, from a point 2500 feet above another, and horizontally distant from it by 44,009, that it could arrive at that lower point in three or even in six minutes? This was the first question that occurred to me, and at a distance from books as I was then, and in no condition to undertake any nice or difficult calculation, I could only satisfy myself by a rude approximation, that there was nothing in the reported circumstance that was without the limits of possibility. Had the result of the calculating been contrary, I should not only have disbelieved the report but I should have doubted the testimony of my senses.

"From a more accurate calculation I find that if no friction nor resistance took place, and if the moving body was allowed to take its flight in the line of the swiftest descent, that it would do so in less than sixty-six seconds. This is the minimum then of time, and we may rest assured while the laws of nature continue the same that they are now, that no body, in the circumstances just described, can perform its journey in less time than the above.

"But though the decent of the trees at Alpnach contains nothing inconsistent with the acceleration of bodies by gravity, it is not to be reconciled with the notions concerning friction, that are usually received even in the scientific world.

"It is common to consider friction as a force bearing a certain proportion to the weight of the body moved, and as retarding the body by a force proportional to its weight, amounting to a fourth or fifth part, or when least to a tenth or twelfth part of gravity. A body, therefore, that was descending along an inclined plane, would be accelerated by its own gravity, minus the force of friction, a constant force that increased in proportion to the body.

"Now, in the present case, it will soon appear that the retardation is vastly less than would arise from any of these suppositions.

wish, therefore, to suppose that the friction of two bodies are proportioned to their weight, it is necessary that the difference between their weights should not be very great."—ED.

"Supposing it to be true, that friction in a given instance (the surface, the inclination, and the weight, being all given) acts as a uniformly retarding force, I have found that a body sliding along an inclined surface under the acceleration of gravity, and the retardation of friction, will be accelerated, so that it will have at every point the velocity that would be acquired by falling by its own gravity from a line inclined to the horizon, that is drawn from the point where the body began to move, and that makes with the horizon an angle, the tangent of which is the friction, that denotes the ratio of friction to gravity. The velocity of the moving body is therefore as the square root, of the portion of a vertical passing through the body, and reaching up to the line just mentioned or the line of no acceleration.

"As the trees at Alpnach enter the lake with a considerable velocity it is evident that the line of no acceleration, drawn from the top of the slide, does not reach the ground at the point where the slide ends, but is then still considerably above the surface; the tangent, therefore, of the angle which that line makes with the horizon, is much less than  $\frac{1}{17}$ . There is reason to think that it does not in reality amount to  $\frac{1}{3}$  of this, and is therefore less than  $\frac{1}{50}$ . It follows, then, that the friction that trees suffer in the slide is less than one-fiftieth of their weight.

"Now, from what can we suppose the small proportion that friction in this instance, bears to the weight to arise? It is not that the surfaces have a great smoothness or a fine polish. The logs that form the trough are coarsely dressed with the adze, and I observed that there was not even the precaution taken of making the grain of the wood lie downward, or toward the declivity. It was so in the tree, but not in the trees which composed the slide. It is not that any lubricating substance, oil, grease, soap, or back-lead, is interposed between their surfaces. Water is the only substance of this kind that is applied. We have fir rubbing on fir, which is supposed a case remarkably unfavourable to the diminution of friction. It can only arise, therefore, from a principle that some mechanical writers have suspect to exist, but which was never before, I think, proved by the direct evidence of facts, namely, that the force of friction does not increase in the proportion of the weight of the rubbing body, so that heavy bodies are, in reality, less retarded in their motion on an inclined surface than lighter bodies. Thus the whole of the phenomena I have been describing, tend to prove, especially the fact I mentioned, that heavy trees made their way more easily than light ones, and that a tree must be of a certain magnitude to make its way to the bottom. Friction, therefore, does not bear even in the same materials a given ratio to the weight, but a ratio that evidently decreases as the weight increases; so that, in a fir of ordinary size it is  $\frac{1}{20}$ , or  $\frac{1}{10}$ , in one of 100 feet in length it is between  $\frac{1}{50}$  and  $\frac{1}{60}$ . According to what law this change takes place, it would be most useful to investigate; it is an inquiry for those engineers who have strong machinery and great power ready at command.

"I must observe also, that I strongly suspect that friction diminishes with the velocity of the moving or sliding body. That it passes all at once when a body begins to move, to be only half of what it was when the body was at rest, is quite certain, and is proved by many experiments. It seems to me not unlikely that the same progress continues as the motion becomes greater. Perhaps in as much as friction is concerned, the pressure is lessened by the velocity, and the poet was not so far mistaken as he is generally supposed to be, when he said of his heroine,

*Illa vel intacte segetis per summa volaret  
Gramina nec teneras curva lassisset aristas.*

However that be, we have a strong example here of the danger of concluding in many of the researches of mechanics, from experiments made on a small scale to the practice that is to be proceeded on in a great one. It requires some attention to enable us to discriminate between the cases where we can safely proceed from the small to the great, and those in which we cannot. A man, from finding that bodies of a pound or half a pound are in equilibrium when their distances from the fulcrum are inversely as their weights, might, without danger of error, transfer the conclusion to weights of hundreds of tons, or to whole planets, were it possible to make the experiment on so large a scale. But when he finds that the friction of body of a pound, or a hundred weight, is one-fourth of the weight, he cannot with equal safety, presume that the same will hold when bodies of immense weight and size come to rub against one another. There are many other cases of the same kind. In general, when our experiments lead to the knowledge of a fact and not of a principle, there is caution required in extending the conclusions beyond the limits by which the experiments have been confined. This is the case with the experiments on friction, where we know only facts, and have no principle to guide us; that is, we have not been able to connect the facts with any of the known and measurable properties of body. In the case of the lever, we have connected the fact with the inertia of matter, and the equality of action and reaction. We have,

therefore, a right to repose confidence on the one, when extended, though not on the other.

"That friction belongs to the cases in which great caution is necessary in extending the conclusions of experiments, is indeed most strongly evinced by the operations that have now been described the result of which is such as could not have been anticipated from those experiments. The danger here, however, is quite of an opposite kind from that which commonly takes place in such instances. The experiments on the small scale, usually represent the thing as more easy than it is now; and engage us in attempts that prove abortive, and are followed by disappointments and even ruin. In the present case, the experiments on the small scale represent the thing as more difficult than when tried on a great one it is found to be, and would lead us, by an error, the direct opposite of the last, to conclude things to be impracticable that may be carried into effect with ease. Had the ingenious inventor of the slide at Alpnach been better acquainted with the received theories of friction, or the experiments on which they are founded, even those that are the best, and on the greatest scale, such as those of another most skilful engineer, M. Coulomb, or had he placed more faith in them, he would never have attempted the great work in which he has so eminently succeeded."—*Observations on the preceding Paper.*

It is much to be regretted that the editor of Professor Playfair's words did not terminate the preceding interesting and valuable paper with the second paragraph of p. 345. In the succeeding pages, the distinguished author maintains, 1. That the phenomena of the slide are incompatible with the recent theories of friction; 2. That Mr Rupp, the engineer, would never have executed that great work, had he been acquainted either with these theories, or with the experiments of Coulomb; 3. That heavy bodies are less retarded by friction on an inclined plane than lighter bodies; and, 4. That he strongly suspects that friction diminishes with the velocity of the moving or sliding body. The two first of these conclusions are evidently incorrect, and founded on an oversight of the author; and the two last have long formed a part of the received theories on friction, and have been deduced from actual experiment.

On the evening upon which Professor Playfair read this paper to the Royal Society, the writer of this note reminded him of Coulomb's beautiful discovery, that when the touching surfaces were small compared with the pressure, (which was obviously the case with the trees of Alpnach,) the friction diminished as the velocity increased; and in our brief notice of the paper in Vol. I. p. 193. of this Journal, published during Mr. Playfair's life, we remarked, "that the very singular phenomena described in Mr. Playfair's paper, arose from the diminution of friction in consequence of an increase of velocity, and may be regarded as an experimental confirmation, on a large scale, of the ingenious views of Coulomb." That Mr Playfair intended to avail himself of these hints, was quite certain, as he repeatedly declined to print the paper in the Transactions of the Royal Society of Edinburgh till he had matured his views on the subject.

M. Bossut, so early as the year 1763, had discovered that the friction was always a less part of the pressure in large masses than in small ones; and had thus in some measure anticipated the discovery of Coulomb. Some time afterwards M. Lambert observed, that the resistance generated by the friction of the communicating parts of an undershot corn mill, combined with that which arises from the grain between the millstones, always diminished when the velocity was increased; and Mr. Southern of Soho, found, by experiments on heavy machinery, that the friction never exceeded  $\frac{1}{40}$ th of the pressure, which is even less than its average amount in the slide of Alpnach.

We have been induced to make these observations, in order to show that the phenomena of the slide of Alpnach were in every respect consistent with previous theories and experiments, and to prevent any doubtful opinions from being propagated under the sanction of a distinguished name.—ED.

*Spurious Loyalty.*—It is to be observed, that in the late Revolution most or all of those men who were before the open professors of the doctrine of Divine right and absolute subjection, were the first that threw off the mask when the practice of royal imposition came to bear upon themselves. And even still, some of those who now preach up this doctrine afresh, and pretend that kings can do no wrong, and must not be resisted, were the loudest exclaimers against the *affair of Magdalen College*, and the impositions of the reign of the late King James. Not one of our preachers of the Passive Doctrine ever gave an instance of it in himself, but unanimously opposed the Sovereign as soon as he began to touch the particular rights.—(*De Foe, 1716.*)

Queen Caroline (wife of Geo. II.) wished to shut up St. Jame's Park from the people, and asked Sir Robert Walpole what it would cost her to do it. He replied, "Only a crown, Madam."

#### ROYAL HANOVERIAN POETRY.

[Horace Walpole, in his *Memoirs*, gives us the following choice specimen (the only one we ever saw) of the poetical powers of the illustrious House of Hanover. For originality, harmony, and delicacy, they certainly were never surpassed by the most ardent and inspired Burgomaster of Heivoetsluys or the Brill.]

#### SONG. THE CHARMES OF SYLVIA. BY THE PRINCE OF WALES (FATHER OF GEO. III.) ON THE PRINCESS.

'Tis not the liquid brightness of those eyes,  
That swim with pleasure and delight,  
Nor those heavenly arches which arise  
O'er each of them to shade their light :—  
'Tis not that hair, which plays with ev'ry wind,  
And loves to wonton round thy face ;  
Now straying round the forehead, now behind,  
Retiring with insidious grace :—  
'Tis not that lovely range of teeth so white,  
As new-shorn sheep equal and fair ;  
Nor e'en that gentle smile, the heart's delight,  
With which no smile could e'er compare :  
'Tis not that chin so round, that neck so fine,  
Those breasts that swell to meet my love,  
That easy sloping waist, that form divine,  
Nor aught below, nor aught above :—  
'Tis not the living colours over each,  
By Nature's finest pencil wrought,  
To shame the full blown rose and blooming peace,  
And mock the happy painter's thought ;—  
No; 'tis that gentleness of mind, that love,  
So kindly answering my desire ;  
That grace with which you look, and speak, and move,  
That thus has set my soul on fire !

It was on the above accomplished Prince and Poet that the following EPITAPH was written—(probably, says Lord Orford, the effusion of some Jacobite Royalist):—

HERE lies FRED.  
Who was alive and is dead :  
Had it been his Father,  
I had much rather :  
Had it been his Brother,  
Still better than another;  
Had it been his Sister,  
No one would have missed her ;  
Had it been the whole Generation,  
Still better for the nation :  
But since 'tis only FRED.  
Who was alive and is dead,—  
There's no more to be said.

#### ON HIS MISTRESS THE QUEEN OF BOHEMIA.

##### (DAUGHTER OF JAMES THE FIRST.)

You meaner beauties of the night,  
That poorly satisfy our eyes  
More by your number than your light,--  
You common people of the skies,  
What are you when the sun shall rise ?  
  
You curious chanters of the wood  
That warble forth Dame Nature's lays,  
Thinking your voices understood  
By your weak accents,---what's your praise  
When Philomel her voice shall raise ?  
  
You violets that first appear  
By your pure purple mantles known,  
Like the nodding virgins of the year,  
As if the Spring were all your own,--  
What are you when the rose is blown ?  
  
So when my Mistress shall be seen,  
In form, and beauty of her mind  
By virtue first, then choice a Queen,  
Tell me, if she were not design'd  
Th' eclipse and glory of her kind ?

HENRY WOTTON.

# ASIATIC DEPARTMENT.

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## Friend of India.

### THE ROMANS IN BRITAIN.

To the Editor of the Journal.

SIR,

According to the FRIEND OF INDIA, it cost the Romans "a full century" to conquer Britain, from the time of Julius Caesar to that of Agricola. Now, from the departure of Julius Caesar, a period of ninety seven years passed without a single Roman being seen in Britain; and from the renewed invasion of Britain by Aulus Plautius, in the reign of C. Audius, to the commencement of the Government of Agricola there was only a period of thirty five years.

Still more objectionable is the following passage. "For this (asserting their independence) the Britons possessed advantages not found in India. Their insular situation, in that early age, could they have freed themselves from the Romans, would have enabled them to defend themselves from all other invaders, and with the exception of Caledonians, far inferior to them in number, they were nearly all united as one nation, while no two of the provinces of India are so united as even to speak precisely the same language."

We are here told that the Britons had superior means of asserting their independence, because their insular situation would have enabled them to maintain it when acquired, supposing them to have possessed a superior naval force, which the invasions of Romans, Saxons, Danes, and Normans prove that they had not. But, with respect to their means of shaking off the Roman yoke, the Romans had as many of their countrymen in Britain to control a million of British as we have of ours in India to control a hundred millions of Indians! The consequence was that the Britons were completely Romanised, and could no more think of expelling the Romans, than the Irish think of expelling the English at this day.

ANGLUS.

## Patriotic Suggestion.

To the Editor of the Journal.

SIR,

I take my pen up hastily to express my satisfaction in observing in to-day's JOURNAL, AN APPEAL to the best feelings of our nature, in behalf of the starving population of Ireland; and I hope to hear of a Public Meeting at the Town-Hall, for the purpose of commencing a Subscription immediately.

Those who are likely to attend this Meeting, will most probably be the Burrah Sahib-logs, who will put down their three and four hundred Rupees each. Now although charity and generosity are inherent in nearly every English breast, still there is a certain pride amongst poorer gentlemen, who, though they do not like to have their Gold Mohur recorded with these magnificent Donations, would yet be happy to give their money in a quiet way.

With a view therefore of saving the pride of poor individuals (*myself* amongst the number), I have thrown together a few hasty suggestions as they occurred to me.

1st. That the Managers be solicited to lend the Theatre for this Charitable purpose.

2d. That the Amateurs will kindly lend their assistance.

3d. That the Proprietors be requested to give up their privilege of Tickets on that evening.

4th.—That the price of each Ticket be 1 Goldmohur for the Boxes, and either 6 or 8 Rupees for the Pit.

5th.—That the members of the Theatrical Beefsteak Club will go to their next Meeting prepared to suggest some attractive Play, in which may be combined all the Theatrical talent of the Chowringhee Boards.

6th.—"Though last not least" that the Public will honour the House with the fullest attendance.

I do not think the ASIATIC DEPARTMENT OF THE JOURNAL would be ill employed, if some of your Correspondents would suggest some good Plays, with a proposed cast of characters.

My opinion is that a short Tragedy and broad Farce would be a good bill of fare. For example "The Iron Chest" Sir Edward Mortimer by our INDIAN BRUTUS, and Winterton by the admirable and imitable Totterton of our boards. For Farces I would suggest "Tom Thumb," "Bombastes Furioso," or "Too late for Dinner." I am induced to mention this latter Farce, as I hear the excellent representative of NICHOLAS TWILL is just arrived in Calcutta; and though I am sorry to hear he is not at present in good health, he will I hope be sufficiently recovered by the time his services are solicited.

The approaching holidays of the Doorga Pooja will oblige the Amateurs to delay the performance of this Play for a short time, as many of the Members of this Society will be happy to avail themselves of the opportunity of flying from their desks in Calcutta.

I am, Sir, Your's in haste,

Sept. 22, 1822.

THEATRICUS.

## A Sharp Rebuke.

To the Editor of the Journal.

SIR,

A letter signed CRITICUS appeared in the JOURNAL of the 18th instant; that commented in no very gentle terms on the performance of "THE WONDER," acted at the Chowringhee Theatre on Friday last.

To criticize the performance of an Amateur Corps of Actors, delicacy, good taste, and good feeling are indispensably necessary. In these qualifications, however, this *sui disert* CRITICUS seems woefully deficient.

I allude not to his remarks on the *Veterans of the Drama*; the praise or censure on them of such a writer as CRITICUS must always be equally pointless; but I deeply deprecate his wanton and illiberal attack on the Gentleman who made his *début* in the character of Don Frederick.

If, as CRITICUS remarks, Don Frederick betrayed embarrassment on the stage; was it the delicacy, the good taste, or the good feeling of CRITICUS that made him try to add to this previous embarrassment by his uncalled for hyper-criticism. I further deprecate the conduct of CRITICUS as subversive of the interests of the Drama; for what future hope of a debutant can the Theatre expect, if such remarks are to be the reward of his kindness in tendering his assistance to the *Corps Dramatique*.

I do not think, but I know that it is nearly the universal feeling of the Chowringhee Amateurs, that if such illiberal and absurd remarks are resorted to in future, they (the Amateurs) will withdraw their assistance from the Theatre altogether.

Wherever this subject has been discussed in Society, I have heard but the one opinion, that the letter of CRITICUS was extremely indecorous; so if this sage reviewer wrote for notoriety, his vanity will be gratified.

Perhaps CRITICUS will answer me with some common place remark, that any one appearing before the Public is liable to public discussion, &c. No one has a higher respect for public opinion than myself; but at the same time, I think that those who devote a certain portion of their time, and give up many pleasant engagements to contribute to the public amusement, are not wrong in expecting to be treated with some little delicacy in return.

I am, what CRITICUS is not,

Calcutta, Sept. 1822. A WELL-WISHER TO THE DRAMA.

## BANK OF BENGAL RATES.

Discount on Private Bills,.....	6 per cent.
Ditto on Government Bills of Exchange,.....	6 per cent.
Interest on Loans on Deposit,.....	6 per cent.

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**Widow of a Living Husband.**

To the Editor of the Journal.

SIR,

A Letter, under the head of *Scandal Mongers*, and the Signature of *SCRUTATOR*, appeared about a fortnight since in one of your Papers; a perusal of it at the time excited in my mind a degree of sympathy of painful yet pleasing recollection, which, I confess, deprived me of the power which the lapse of time only could restore, and which I now in fliter mood employ in sketching, as relevant to the subject, the character of a much respected, much lamented, and never-to-be-forgotten friend, long since consigned to that Eternity to which we are all bending.

He was a man stricken in years, of social habits, and, I may in truth declare, the milk of human kindness flowed freely and abundantly through his every vein. That he was a *brave* man the several campaigns in which he distinguished himself, and the records of the Government under which he served, bear ample and honourable testimony; but, like many a brave fellow, he could never hear a tale of woe, but his fine, his generous feelings harrowed up his soul, and brought the tear of compassion of many a pity, into his eye! He was indeed the active agent of *Benevolence* upon every occasion, I had almost said whether of *desert* or otherwise, which presented itself to his notice. To his friends, more especially the juniors of his corps, (for where is the man, in what profession or calling, who at same period or other of his life has not occasion for the helping hand of *Friendship*?) to these, I say, his purse was ever open; the extent of his benevolence, like the range of his *Philanthropy*, was wide and general, confined to no particular class of beings under heaven, all alike felt and acknowledged its influence. It was but a short period before his death, that an unhappy circumstance of some notoriety at the time, and which bears a near relation to the immediate subject of *SCRUTATOR's* letter, engaged his attention in a more than ordinary degree. The object, a mere interesting one can scarcely be imagined, was a young woman who had been some time parted from her husband, an Officer of a distant and separate Division of the Army, she had taken up her abode with an elderly widow lady of unblemished character in the vicinity, and here it was that my friend first became acquainted with this truly interesting and much injured young woman. Of the sentiments which he entertained of her unhappy condition the following Extract from one of his letters to a friend, who had suggested to him that the frequency of his visits had set in motion the tongue of *Scandal*, affords an ample elucidation.

He writes—"When, Sir, an amiable and virtuous woman is represented to me as being unfortunate, the thorn of regret and anxiety is implanted in my bosom: when it appears to me that she is suffering undeserved calamity or misfortune, my desire to soothe the asperity of her fate is increased, the more she suffers, the more warmly solicitous am I for her ease and welfare. This feeling, Sir, it is natural to suppose must be accompanied by a respect proportionate to the exercise, on her part, of those great virtues of humility and a patient placid resignation to the will of Providence, which true piety inculcates in the mind of every true Christian. For such a woman, Sir, there could scarce be any sacrifice that I would not unhesitatingly make. Upon these principles of my nature have I acted in regard to the object alluded to, on whose account, I confess, a deeper interest has been excited than I can remember ever to have felt in the course of a long and checkered life. Think, Sir, of a young and lovely woman, possessing not merely the charms of a delicate person and a countenance beaming with every attraction to warm and interest the feelings, but a mind, gifted, well stored. I may in truth declare, of this lady, with a delicacy and refinement of understanding not very generally to be met with in others of her Sex, not even in the higher walks of life, at an age, too, which a kindly Providence seems to have designed for the peculiar enjoyment of life, in its most desirable, its most useful, and innocent participations. At this joyful, happy season of delight to others, she is abandoned

by one, who of all men on earth, should cling to her—her husband: the watchful guardian of her honor, the protector of her person, to advise, to cherish, support and defend! at this peculiarly interesting season of life, surrounded or subject to be surrounded and beset by villainy in the specious gay trappings of vanity, courtly in appearance, insinuating in manners; at this trying season, the protector and friend is no where to be found! A heart of stone, Sir, dry and cold, sheds no drop of commiseration, yields no warmth of sympathy: she is abandoned to the wide world, driven from society, the *widow of a living husband!* Society has little charms for her; if it were otherwise, the imprudence, nay, the danger of indulgence is too obvious to require comment; into the gayer scenes of public amusement much less dare she adventure, even the porch of the *Holy Temple* of her God! the approach to that very Altar where vows the most solemn, were plighted, is beset with obstacles of a nature so terrifying to one so young, however innocent, the *public gaze*, that she is driven to meditate in private, and in private to supplicate those tender mercies of her God! which man, barbarous man, had wholly denied to her, and which she is deterred from supplicating in public in common with her fellow Christians! The fatal knot once tied, what power can loose it? In this forlorn, solitary, wretched extremity, no human means are available, a deviation from moral rectitude subjects her to merited obloquy; but deviation of this sort to a truly virtuous female is worse than the worst of deaths. From a pressure of evils so heavy, so complicated and calamitous, where is the woman that will step forward to befriend her! where, Sir, is the man that can do it? I had foolishly believed that my age would have secured the lady from the malignant tongue of a base, a degenerate slander; but I find nor age, nor reputation, however advanced the one, however fair and honorable the other, can impose the obligations of common humanity, even of common decency, on the minds or tongues of these pests of Society, these disturbers of our peace, these robbers of our happiness! and, pained, Sir, greatly pained, am I to remark that the spring, the root of this rank and poisonous weed, is too frequently to be found in the muddy soil, but no, I will stop here; the stain, though too common, shall be and remain where it only is; upon those who are not capable of entertaining "that female nicety and inward cleanliness of mind and fancy, which renders their sex so much the awe of ours!" Sir, I have done; to compensate for deficiency of talent, for you will easily perceive it in this letter, God has bestowed on me a feeling heart, a gift far more valuable in my estimation than the gaudy tinsel of a flower but unmeaning declamation. Once known to, once honored by an introduction to such a woman, the best energies of my nature and the unsparing exercise of my means should be at her disposal. These, Sir, are the principles by which I have been guided, they bring no blush into my furrowed cheek, they are as balm to my heart, and the indulgence of them is a comfort and a consolation to me, now in my old age, and will ever be so, to the latest period of my existence."

My friend never again set foot on the threshold of that door which to him seemed the prison-gate of a virtuous suffering female. He never again listened to the tremulous sweet voice, nor ever beheld again the benign countenance of this suffering angel; but on his death bed, put up a prayer for her speedy emancipation, her future welfare and happiness. He prayed too, for the *forgiveness of all Scandal Mongers*; and he devised property to the extent of three or four thousand pounds sterling, properly secured, to the suffering object of discernment.

If, Mr. Editor, the perusal of this letter shall serve to restrain a vice which all well educated persons of both sexes abhor and reprobate; if only one in a hundred shall be reclaimed by it, from a wise, just and timely consideration of the mischiefs, the cruel injuries heaped upon society by a wicked indulgence in it, by a sense of shame and remorse, the ever too sure attendants on vice of any sort; the giving it a place in your valuable and widely circulating miscellany, the *CALCUTTA JOURNAL*, will be to render an essential service to society at large; and if the condition of only one deserving female thus unhappily situated, shall by these means, however remotely be ameliorated, by being restored to her conjugal rights, to that bosom, to those arms that should

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foster and protect her, it would be a source of endless gratification to a heart ever warmly devoted to the good of his fellow creatures—to the heart of Yours truly,

Barrackpore, July 29, 1822.

VERAX.

### Telegraphs and Flagstaffs.

To the Editor of the Journal.

Sir,

It is evident that early information of Arrivals and Departures of ships, trading to or from Calcutta, must be highly interesting to every inhabitant concerned in trade, and to those who have connexions in England or the countries traded to from hence; no Public Paper is so cheerfully subscribed to as the Bankshall Report; a more expeditious mode of conveying intelligence of Arrivals and Departures may be effected by means of Flagstaff Stations, the signal cottages to be Bungalows, each station would require a suit of Lyne's and Marryatt's Flags, any one of the Branch Pilots is well qualified to instruct the Native Signal-men in the use of either description of flags, to express any message verbatim.

The monthly sum now paid for the Bankshall Report would be sufficient to support the Flag Establishment, and I have reason to believe that the primary expence would soon be met by a moderate charge made for messages to and from the shipping.

A Semaphoric Line, similar to those from the Admiralty, has been proposed for the purpose of early information; many of the principal Merchants of Calcutta, had entered so warmly into the plan at first sight, that they actually petitioned Government for permission to complete the Line at the own expence, and to take the revenues arising from the establishment: Notwithstanding the prayer of the petition was readily granted, the Petitioners, after a survey of the Line from hence to Saugor, and an estimate of expence to complete the Line with buildings and machinery, have paused upwards of three years, without expressing their determination one way or the other.

The estimate given in for building and machinery was 80,000 secca rupees; monthly wages to Signal-men, including an Officer at each extremity of the Line, 450 secca rupees. To meet this expence, it was proposed that a message of 25 words should pay 3 secca rupees to or from any ship at the New Anchorage; the same number of words from Diamond Harbour 2 secca rupees; and proportionate to that scale and the distance from Bankshall.

With such an establishment, no master of a vessel would employ the tedious and expensive conveyance by boat when he could send his orders from Calcutta and receive an answer from the New Anchorage within the hour.

While the Merchants are making up their minds on the Semaphoric Establishment (which probably will take another three years) a Flagstaff Line may soon completed and used to great advantage by the proprietors and shipping interest. I mean the Proprietors of the Bankshall Shipping Report, who at present give every expedition in their power, being doubly interested in receiving and giving early information.

Y. Z.—

CALCUTTA BAZAR RATES, SEPTEMBER 23, 1822.

	BUY.	SELL
Remittable Loans, . . . . .	Rs. 19 12	19 4
Unremittable ditto, . . . . .	12 0	11 10
Bills of Exchange on the Court of Directors, for {	28 0	27 0
12 Months, dated 21st of December 1821, . . . . .	26 0	25 0
Ditto, for 12 months, dated 30th of June 1822, . . . . .	24 0	23 0
Bank Shares, . . . . .	4500 0	4500 0
Spanish Dollars, per 100, . . . . .	205 12	205 4
Notes of Good Houses, for 6 months, bearing Interest, at 6 per cent.		
Government Bills, Discount . . . . .		at 3 ½ per cent.
Loans upon Deposit of Company's Paper, for 1 to 3 months, . . . . .		4 per cent

### False Point of Honor.

To the Editor of the Journal.

Sir,

This is the age of innovation, if not of improvements It is at least the age of research; and if the spirit of it continues, it cannot but be productive of a glorious and enlightened world. Nothing can be more dangerous than stagnant inactivity: progression, though in wrong direction even, is preferable; for discovered errors are thenceforth easily avoided: and thank heaven, while the art of printing, and the freedom of the press remain, it will hardly be in the power of Hobgoblins, Jesuits, or Holy Alliances, to check the diffusion of knowledge. Man is now past his childhood: and though the tyrant and the satellite may equally wish the renewal of the darkness and fury of the Crusades, Truth is advancing with a steady and increasing brilliancy.

I have been led into these reflections (common place enough certainly,) by a circumstance (not worth relating) that drew my attention to that prevailing notion, which makes it a *dereliction from honor in any man to swerve from the religion in which he was bred*. This absurd fancy may fairly I think be traced to the age of the crucifix and the ordeal; and may as fairly be laid to the credit of the mass of combined artifice and villainy, erected at that period, by the church of Rome: it smells strongly of the Priest. I can very easily imagine the mode in which other notions of honor arose: Trust-worthiness and courage are qualities noble in themselves: every man of spirit will feel instinctively that their opposites, Treachery and Cowardice are unworthy of him: it must be a sentiment coeval with human nature itself: if any thing be innate that is; but how adherence to a particular opinion, grounded on nothing but assertion, could possibly be put on an equality with these losty qualities, and be considered as a point of honor, is astonishing! and would be incredible, did we not find it to be fact; and did we not know the wonderful effects of superstition and enthusiasm.

Let it be tried by every test of morality, or of common sense and it will be found to militate against them all: no one single advantage can it produce either to the individual or to the community: but on the contrary the worst evils attendant on error will be glaring as day. But let it be examined by the test of its advantages to the clergy of those days, and it will be found perfectly consistent with every other art, used by them, to confound, and enslave a simple and credulous people. The division into castes among the Hindoos, is an effort of priesthood, comparatively fair and moral; *that was* of some use to the community; for it repressed in a great measure the evils of ambition; *this seems to me*, the last finish given to a temple of prophanity and impiety.

If a right conception and worship of the Divine Being be necessary, (and may he forbid that I should doubt this), and if our present opinions be erroneous, let it be remembered that they are, that they *must* be sinful. What then must be the atrocity of that wickedness, that would seek to baffle reason, and prevent examination, by binding honour and respectability (the love of which is so deeply rooted in the human heart) to one path, to one opinion alone!! Priests knew the force of this, and with a demoniac sagacity applied it: the Hindoo and the Catholic have each the, "loss of cast," but let those who believe them answer it.

I am, Sir, your obedient Servant,

JULIAN.

What says the "Believer of the Christian Faith" to this? which will give up? the proselyte, or one of the tenets of orthodoxy?

### Death.

At Sanger, on the 17th ultimo, the Lady of Lieutenant and Adjutant LLOYD, 2nd Battalion 18th Regiment, of a Daughter.

### Death.

On board his Budgerow near Chunar, on the 18th instant, Ensign JOHN CATTS, of the 2d Battalion 19th Regiment of Native Infantry.

## Catholic Emancipation.

*To the Editor of the Journal.*

Sir,

If my opinions on the subject of Catholic Emancipation were not already decidedly formed, every illiberal scruple would have vanished, on the perusal of Mr. Canning's splendid argumentative speech, delivered in the House of Commons, on the 30th of April last, when the preparatory motion regarding Catholic Peers, received the sanction of the Lower House of Parliament.

Mr. Canning's exertions in this glorious cause shew him to be a true friend to genuine liberty, and will immortalize his name as a stanch patriot to the latest posterity.

While we admire the strength and beauty of the Right Honorable Gentlemen's arguments adduced in support of the motion, how futile do those appear of the opposite party, and upon this occasion how peculiarly insignificant indeed; the principal objection now raised seems to be the notion that this part of the question ought not have been brought forward separately, but reserved for next Session when the main branch of the subject is to be brought forward by Mr. Plunkett, to meet another full discussion in the House of Commons.

Even some friends to Emancipation appear to have entertained this idea, among whom Lord Nugent was numbered, but that evidently appears to be erroneous, as the same objection might have been applied to every act of mitigation passed by the Legislature, since the accession of George the Third in 1760. It is necessary to work a gradual reform, when the main point cannot at once be carried, and should this important bill have had equal success on the House of Lords, it may be hoped most confidently, that the first question of Catholic Emancipation will pass next Session.

His Majesty, God bless him, is favourably inclined towards his Catholic subjects, and long may Providence spare him to reign in the heart of a Free and Loyal People, and that as the first commencement of his reign was gloomy and inauspicious, from the machinations of Traitors, the remainder may be glorious and happy.

The only Catholic Peers who will not be immediately affected by this bill, are the Earls of Traquair and Newburgh in Scotland.

To restore these Noblemen to their birth-right, it will be necessary to rescind part of the articles of Union between England and Scotland, which must be effected separately.

The Earl of Newburgh is descended from the unfortunate house of Ratcliffe, Earls of Derwentwater in England, which title was attainted, but the Barldom of Newburgh descended from the Female line to the representative of the family.

The only point in which I do not coincide with Mr. Canning, is his regret that the Catholic Peers were summoned to the Coronation, as he conceived it only calculated to make them appear to disadvantage, but in this I decidedly think the King acted from the wisest and most liberal motives. George the Fourth is the first Sovereign who for upwards of a century has summoned Catholic Noblemen to this solemn ceremonial compact between king and people, and from which it was certainly the height of injustice to exclude Peers, on account of religion.

The reign of George the Fourth will be for ever memorable in British history, as an enlightened era, if this so long delayed emancipation of a large portion of British subjects takes place soon, as it must do, sooner or later, and the monarch will be hailed by the blessings of thousands.

You're very obediently,

Northern Circles.

PEREGRINE PUNGENT.

## Deaths.

On the 24th instant, JAMES, the infant Son of SAMUEL SWINTON, Esq. of the Civil Service.

On the 23d instant, MR. MAXWELL GOMES, of the General Department, aged 44 years and 9 months.

## Slangus.

How bright the gleams, like meteors fled,

That Fancy's track adorn!

How gay the streaks of blushing red,

That gild the rising morn!

And bless the light, whose friendly beams,

The midnight wand'rer cheers!

But worthier of the Muse's theme,

Are dewey'd Pity's tears.

How softs the notes the lute emits,

While zephyrs float around!

How sweet the theft that love permits,

Or hides with magic sound!

And gay is boyhood's idle dream,

When hope the prospect cheers!

But, worthier of the Muse's theme,

Are dewey'd Pity's tears.

Bright shines the ray, that valor leads,

To glory or a tomb!

And false the glare, that pleasure needs,

Her pathway to ilume.

How faithful to her God's last gleams,

Her head the sun-flower rears,

But worthier of the Muse's theme,

Are dewey'd Pity's tears.

Thou offspring of a better sphere,

By Heav'n's decree ordain'd;

To shed thy light, serene and clear,

O'er those by woe enchain'd;

The pris'ner hails thy aid supreme,

While sympathy appears;

Then worthy of the Muse's theme,

Are dewey'd Pity's tears.

Chittagong.

J. W. S.

## Impromptu.

*On the Proposition, suggested by a Correspondent, in the JOURNAL of July 9, 1822.—for effecting the Quadrature of the Circle.*

If a circle bisected repose on a line,  
Its diameter's length and right angles define,

Connect at a Vertex, both this base's extremes—

And behold the result of Charles Hudson's Day dreams.

To the diameter's square, add square of its half

(I'm serious—and beg you will not think I laugh)

The diameter added, to twice this sum's root

Gives the circle's circumference—and something to boot?

N. B. The Equation immediately deducible from C. H.'s

Statement, is as above: or  $C = D + 2\sqrt{D^2 + \frac{1}{4}D^2}$ , which so far from being "exactly" true, is not even an approximation, but much in excess, as might be easily proved; also that the object in view is very nearly attainable by a smaller Isosceles' Triangle: namely, one inscribed in the circle on a chord equal to radius; for let its sides be extended to a tangent parallel thereto, their sum and twice this base will give the circumference to a very minute fraction.

August 1, 1822.

## ANTI-PARALOGISM.

P. S. The JOURNAL of the 16th has just arrived, in which I see another Letter of Charles Hudson's, intimating his attempt at illustrative calculations to be "without in the least reflecting on the arduous labours of ancient and modern Mathematicians." It is a pity this is the case, for he cannot reflect on them too much! or too early!

A. P.

## ASIATIC DEPARTMENT.

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### Nagpore Intelligencer.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 1822.

**Drama.**—Shakspeare's Play of the MERRY WIVES OF WINDSOR, was performed on the 5th. The house was crowded, and good humour and great expectation were depicted in every countenance. It is one of those proofs which we always wish to dwell on, that it is these superior productions of Dramatic Writers, which afford to the Amateur an opportunity of displaying his histrionic powers and talents, while every province of the stage becomes enriched by a refined taste, which excellence in judgment and language can give it. In making our Critique on the different characters on this occasion, we shall offer a frank and candid opinion, and leave a common rule of many Editors of praising where it is not due, or not saying sufficient where it is. We will speak as we really felt and thought on this occasion, so that where we do not approve, it is to be hoped the Amateur will take it as a mere opinion of our own which is not infallible; and as we have but a humble opinion of our judgment, so we know that it may lead us astray, and we may be mistaken.

The entrance of Shallow, Slender, and Evans, proved to us at once, that great pains had been taken in the dress department. Shallow was deficient in that tremor or that break of voice, which we usually perceive in men who attain the age of 80, and his stoop was rather that from some apparent lameness than the tottering bend of old age; his dress was particularly good, and some parts of this character were well sustained. Slender, altho' not performed after Liston's style in what we may term an Idiot look and whining ridiculous gesture, was yet humorous enough, and afforded mirth to the audience.

Sir Hugh Evans was well performed, as far as we could hear him, but he was not audible enough this evening; his dress was admirable. Master Page was a true delineation, and was performed with spirit. Fenton was most splendidly dressed, and made a great deal out of very little. The appearance of Sir John Falstaff, as may naturally be supposed, was greeted with loud plaudits; his manner, his dress, and his figure were exact and true to the character we have seen represented by Stephen Kemble and Cooke. We have never witnessed the performance of the famous Falstaff of India, but with the correction of one or two defects, that we shall take the liberty of pointing out to this Gentleman who performed on this evening, we do not think he could be surpassed. In the first place we do not think his voice was of that deep sonorous bass, which we are aware this Gentleman is capable of giving. During his description of the hard treatment he met with in the Buck Basket, the pauses were too long, and he was never quick to relieve them. We must, however, mention that it was this Gentleman's debut in this most difficult and arduous character, and it will be granted by all that it is only practice and confidence that enables the actor in the delivery of long speeches to keep the attention of an audience alive by a quickness of speech, in some parts, which adds great effect to others on which it is necessary to dwell with emphasis, giving force and energy to long details, and an understanding of the part; even at a private table we do not like the slow detail of any story, they often lose their interest from becoming tedious. Notwithstanding these trifles, which are so easily remedied, we consider this character to have been most ably performed. We shall anticipate the pleasure of soon seeing him again in HENRY THE FOURTH, in which he must be great indeed. The characters of Nym, Pistol and Bardolph were performed with great humour.

Mr. Ford was most excellent, the expression of the passion of jealousy was given with a feeling most true, and this Gentleman throughout was great. Mrs. Ford and Mrs. Page were performed with eclat; the dress of the former was neat and handsome, the latter was particularly so, that of the former we think was negligently put on. The appearance and the dress of Ann Page were very superior. The whole of the female dresses did infinite credit to the amiable friend to the Theatre, who we are informed has rendered great assistance in that department to

the Amateurs. Dame Quickly could not have been surpassed, we have never seen a character so faithfully assumed.

It will not be exaggerating the abilities of the Gentleman who performed Doctor Caius, to say that it was so excellent as almost to be beyond imitation; it would really be impossible to imagine that it could have been excelled, either in language, voice or deportment; the humour and the spirit of the part he kept up throughout, and it was a most perfect masterpiece of performance. We think in the same light of Mine Host of the Garter.

The scenery, decorations, and dresses were ably got up, and did the Amateurs the greatest credit. We certainly consider this play to be the most difficult to be performed in a small Theatre, yet it was superior to any thing we have seen in the Upper Provinces, and we must acknowledge how greatly we are indebted to these Gentlemen who have afforded to the Society here such a fund of rational amusement.

The Amateurs, as if they were the soul and source of affording gaiety and recreation to the dull monotony of our Indian exile, after the play gave to a large party an elegant Supper, and the delight of the evening ended in a merry Dance, which was kept up till near four in the morning.

### CORRESPONDENCE CONTINUED FROM OUR LAST.

*Letter from Miss Clara Stanley at Lalcoapore, to her dearest friend Miss Amelia Woodville in Calcutta.*

Well, my dearest Amelia, I have at last arrived at this famous place, Lalcoapore, of which I am sure I shall get tired in a week. O! my charming Amelia, how different it is to that ever-dear delightful place Calcutta. It may perhaps be tolerable until the end of the cold season, as we are to have a number of Balls, which you know I am so fond of and draw upon me so much admiration. You desired me to give an account of our journey up the country, but I find I have nothing to say about it, except that I used to be obliged to get up every morning at day-light, which I never could have supported, had it not been for the delightful gallop I had, much to the annoyace of poor Cyrilli and his doll of a daughter Lucy. But, my dear Amelia, I cannot describe to you my astonishment at Aunt Marplot's extraordinary conversation to me yesterday. You well know that my good friend Mrs. Candid has sent me up to her care on a matrimonial speculation, and you equally well know that love does not enter into my ideas of happiness; give me but an opportunity of dressing well and dancing every day, and I care for little else;—apropos of dancing, only think what unfashionable wretches we have here, they think my darling waltz, of exhibiting which I have been dreaming for the last three nights, indecent! and I have already been so well tutored that I ventured this morning to tell a real lobster that I could not bear such a public exhibition, although I am so passionately fond of it. You will say that I am wrong in designating these Gentlemen by such wicked names, and I think so too, when I think seriously on the subject; but I learnt the error from my Aunt who cannot bear soldiers, I do not know why, but my Uncle told me the other morning in a whisper, that they are not so well paid as Civilians, and that they are liable to be killed in battle, or to die from sickness in the horrible countries they are obliged to campaign in. Well, all this is very true, is it not? but then you know, my dear Amelia, that the Duke of York is a Soldier, and the Duke of Wellington, and also the Governor General in India, and I shall never forget as long as I live how proud my Aunt Tabby was, because she got a kiss from the Duke of Wellington at the Lord Mayor's Ball, and Sally, our nursery maid, when King Alexander kissed her, all the time pretending to admire my little Sister Julia. But bless me, I quite forgot my Aunt's lecture: "My dearest Clara," said she, (for she was as kind the first moment I saw her as if I was her own daughter, although between ourselves I am quite afraid of her, and under shocking restraint). "My dearest Clara, I am overjoyed to find you so superior to the description Mrs. Candid gave of you,—but my love as I have undertaken to provide you a good Establishment (in which art I may without vanity say I excell) you must try to

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conform to a few simple rules, by which I must infallibly get you married to a young Civilian to whom I will introduce you shortly.—In the first place, you must give up all thoughts of the red coats, but indeed I believe that an unnecessary caution as well as that of falling in love, as Mrs. Candid tells me, you are equally indifferent to both; but at the same time you must flirt and coquet with them all, and seem to be particular to any one or more of them that may shew symptoms of adoration. Of this I shall give you my advice as occasion may require. If you can succeed in alluring some of them to make proposals to you, so much the better; the more the better, my dear. It will give you consequence, love, and besides it is part of my scheme for working on the vanity of the young Civilian, who you must know, darling, is horribly bashful, and will require much management and dexterity from you, my Angel, for you are young and artless child" (observing I suppose that my face was red with shame) "but I shall be your Pilot, my Clara, I shall be the principal performer." (Now I long to see my Adonis, Amelia I hope he is handsome or a good figure) "These are the first points you must attend to; indeed these, with a shew of regard and attention to our sex, but to the Gentlemen as much scandal of them as you please, will I hope fully answer our ends." She told me several other things, which I either did not comprehend or pay attention to (as I had just began to think of my new dress in which I am to make my first appearance at Mrs. Sprightly's Ball to-morrow night,) I shall not attempt to relate, to appear I mean, in your charming gown which you so handsomely presented to me on my leaving you, for the present occasion. The purple body, my thoughts are all running on the charming Ball, so adieu,

My dearest dear Amelia, your giddy Friend,

Lalcoapore.

CLARA STANLEY.

In our next we shall give letter III. from Lieutenant Charles Service at Lalcoapore to his friend Captain Worthy in Camp, announcing the Arrival of three Spinsters at that station, and the sensation excited at Bachelor's Hall.

### Chess.

To the Editor of the Journal.

SIR,

Two of your Correspondents have stated Laws respecting Stale-mate, but without giving any reason for them. I will therefore supply the omission on one side of the question, by quoting the rule from an edition of Philidor's work printed in 1790.

Philidor gives 17 rules, which he says "the Society or Club of Chess in England have adopted for their code."—No. 16, the one relating to Stale-mate, is as follows:

"When one has nothing else to play, and his King being out of Check, cannot stir without coming to a Check; then the game is Stale-mate. In England he whose King is Stale-mate wins the game,\* but in France and several other countries the Stale-mate is a drawn game."

Your Correspondent AMATEUR having informed you that the foregoing rule is not attended to in any Chess-club which he has visited in England, but that Stale-mate is considered a drawn game, it is to be hoped he will mention the cause of it; for when a reason has been given for establishing a rule, people naturally expect the same kind of compliment upon its being annulled.

### A KNIGHT.

\* This rule is grounded on the decision of several authors, particularly it is to be found in the edition of the Calabrois, printed in London, in the year 1656."

### HIGH WATER AT CALCUTTA THIS DAY.

	M.	N.
Morning,.....	11	18
Evening,.....	11	43
Moon's Age,.....	11 Days	

### Breach of the Sabbath.

To the Editor of the Journal.

SIR,

I have often observed with astonishment the inconsistency, not only of men, but of Governments: more particularly in cases where the human mind would seem to have been most deeply interested and involved. That in the lighter pursuits of pleasure, of literature, and of taste, a certain degree of licentiousness may be tolerated, I will admit; but that a people with all the outward shew of piety, and with a peculiar character of sanctity, should openly violate their religious principles, is in itself so monstrous, that we start from such a charge, however well sustained, with doubt and hesitation. The beauty and purity of Christian morality has been admitted and admired even by Sceptics, and, in many instances, I am sorry to say, its professors have eulogised and abandoned its principles. If a life of simplicity, virtue, and poverty, has been exchanged for power, rank, and luxury, and instead of the mind being occupied with the Gospel, it only thinks of realizing ambitious hopes, surely the most beautiful part of the system has been violated. I do not intend to say that such is the fact, although the great salaries drawn by Churchmen in this country might favour the idea: I am rather willing to give every degree of credit to our Spiritual Teachers, and to suppose that they accept of their enormous salaries as agents for the benefit of mankind, and not with the sole intent of enriching themselves. But, Sir, I cannot help thinking, they are neglectful in their duty in other points, and that they have permitted, without expostulation, the commands of God to be violated where even the paltry excuse of expediency could not be pleaded. According to my opinion, the Christian Teacher should be meek and firm; he should be bound by the letter of the law, and not by the policy of man; he should preach the word of God, and denounce its violators: but if, instead of this, he sees that the Lord's day is no longer kept holy, that Cattle, that Strangers, that Christians and Infidels are all employed, that Servants, Slaves and Convicts, are compelled to labour, and that he views all with silent indifference, can he be said faithfully to have fulfilled his duty, as a Pastor and Teacher of Christianity? It is not enough to lash petty offenders; it is not enough to display zeal against vulgar vices, but it is necessary that the intrepidity of Nathan should be imitated, and that the errors or prostitution of power should be demonstrated; because, in proportion as the laws of God are set aside by those in authority, their restraints are removed from those in humbler walks in life, while religion is scandalized, and morality injured. I therefore think, that those Gentlemen who receive £ 800 or £ 1200 a year, for performing the duties of their holy office, should, if they consider it necessary to observe the Commandments as set forth in the 20th Chapter of Exodus, have proclaimed the unlawfulness of breaking the Sabbath day. Now, with respect to individuals, who profess themselves followers of Christ, who are strict at prayer, and profuse in charitable donations; how can they reconcile it to themselves, to become the instruments by which the Scripture is violated? If these Commandments are not binding on Christians, if they are not to be considered as laws that no human power can alter, I should wish to ask why such care is taken to fix them in the memory of youth, and to implant them into the mind with holy veneration: would it not be better, if they are to be disregarded, at once to renounce them altogether, than to treat them with such solemn mockery? According to my opinion, if we are Christians, we are bound to observe the laws as laid down in our holy books; foreign country, strange manners, and the custom of the inhabitants can be no excuse: for the commands of God have sprung from infinite wisdom, and being the result of divine reflection are fixed and irrevocable. As therefore we are commanded to observe the Sabbath, I should wish to be informed upon what principle, public institutions and private establishments are kept open; why private and public works are carried on during that holy day? I should wish to be informed, upon what grounds, such a different opinion can rest, as to the moral and religious turpitude of the same act, in London, and

Wednesday, September 25, 1822.

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Calcutta? The Society for the Suppression of Vice in London pursues with rigor the vendors of trifling articles on Sunday; while the same people in the East, sanction by their practice, approve by their example, and compel by their authority, a breach of the Sabbath. I commenced by observing on inconsistency, and certainly there appears something very like it, in the whole of the conduct I have commented on: Should I have been in error, I shall be glad to be enlightened, at all events I hope some satisfactory explanation will be given.

ARGUS.

### Guardians and Wards.

To the Editor of the Journal.

SIR,

There appeared a few days back a letter in your Paper, signed "YACOON TONSON," which, though certainly deserving of much praise, is, I think, a little too severe upon our fair young friends. That there are some who may have visited India for the purpose he alludes to, cannot be doubted, and are therefore justly blameable; but many, and I may say generally, arrive in the "City of Palaces" without most probably an idea or thought on the subject, further than that which every young woman, no matter whether in England or India, must have—the wish of eventually uniting herself with a man who is worthy of her affection, and capable of supporting and protecting her. That several young Ladies yield up their own judgment to the persuasion of those who are nominally their Guardians, assisted partly by their constant association with men and women whose habits and modes of thinking (as Yacoob justly says) have destroyed the little degree of feeling they may have once had, is certainly most true, but how much more are the Guardians to be blamed than the Wards?

A young Lady, without either like or dislike to any particular man—who fancies himself in love with her, pressed by her Guardians on the *advantages* of the match, their constant disgusting discussions and repetitions of the *interest* accruing from it, the natural wish of being independent, and very often with the hope that she may be able to render her own home less uncomfortable and tormenting to her than that in which she then resides, allows herself to be driven into a marriage from which she derives nothing but misery; and though she is certainly in some degree reprehensible, I think the Guardians are much more so.

That Parents have a right to the obedience of their Children in many things cannot be denied; but when the earthly happiness of their child is at stake, they have no right to expect it; and yet how often do we see the contrary in this country, not only in Parents but in Guardians, whose right is infinitely much less; which even the advocates for implicit obedience to parental authority in every thing, must allow.

Let me then, Guardians, call upon you to trust to your Wards the free use of their own judgments in the selection of a partner for their future life, unhampered by your continual cautions of eligibility, and unbiased by your repeated admonitions of the advantages of rank and riches, and you will soon find many more and happier marriages than now generally exist; but even should the latter not be the case, you will have the satisfaction of knowing that you were in no wise the cause.

I am, Sir, your obedient Servant,

Upper-Provinces, July 31, 1822.

ARISTIDES.

### Marriage.

On the 20th instant, at St. John's Cathedral, by the Reverend Mr. THOMAS, Captain SAMUEL COLE, Commander of the Brig COMMERCE, to Miss MARY COWAN, Sister of the late Mrs. CECIL.

### BIRTHS.

On the 23d instant, the Lady of Captain GAVIN YOUNG, of a Daughter.

At Cuttack, on the 16th instant, at the house of THOMAS PAKENHAM, Esq. the Lady of WILLIAM DENT, Esq. of the Civil Service, of a Daughter.

### Police Office.

To the Editor of the Journal.

SIR,

Knowing no better channel them through the medium of your JOURNAL to be informed on this subject, allow me to ask, why is not privilege allowed by the Police Office of this metropolis to individuals to hear Trials at that place, who resort there for that purpose, as is allowed by the Supreme Court?

A Friend of mine had lately occasion to go there to hear the trial of a Gentleman for whom he was interested, but the Constable in attendance prevented him from going into the room of the Magistrates, saying he had no orders from them to admit any body but the parties.

Now, Mr. Editor, I do not know why there should be any such restrictions in this country, since it must be acknowledged that every British Court in the world, is at all times and on every occasion open to the public.

By your giving publicity to this, you will oblige.

AN ENQUIRER.

### Atrocious Robbery.

To the Editor of the Journal.

SIR,

You perhaps may remember inserting in a corner of your Paper, an answer to a Query dated Upper Provinces, June 28th, and signed A TALKATIVE FEMALE.—I sent it, Sir. Fancy then my astonishment on the perusal of a letter from my Friend Miss ——, at Benares, who says "A most Atrocious Robbery has been committed on your property by a certain Lady here, who has taken the credit of being the Author of that Letter signed A TALKATIVE FEMALE—Did you ever know such impudence? I can only say I never did."—There must have been something very brilliant in that little production of mine, Mr. Editor, that could have induced a Lady to have been guilty of such wicked and wilful plagiarism. Oh! how shocked I am at such conduct, and I think the best reproof will be, what common justice demands, an early publication of this letter.—Yours

Upper Provinces, not 100 miles }      A TALKATIVE FEMALE.  
from the Taja, Sept. 8.      }

### Bank Notes.

To the Editor of the Journal.

SIR,

Can any of your numerous Correspondents inform me why Paper Currency is almost entirely confined to the immediate neighbourhood of Calcutta? I reside at a small station, where a Hoondie is not procurable, and consequently am putting an interested question.

Under the existing Regulations, a Collector cannot grant a draft to a Civil Servant for any portion of his allowance, though this indulgence is not withheld from the Military Branch of the Service. I am not aware of any evil likely to result from the circulation of Bank Notes in these Provinces, and I imagine it would be considered a great accommodation by many in the Service, were they permitted to receive, at their option, a part of their salary in notes.

I remain Sir, Your most obedient Servant,

Upper Provinces, Sept. 17, 1822.

NUQDA.

### Nautical Notices.

Madras, Sept. 7, 1822.—His Majesty's Ship LEEFAY, Commodore Charles Grant, C. B. together with His Majesty's Sloops CURLEW and SOPHIE anchored in the Roads on Thursday morning, and in the evening the Commodore landed under the honours due to his rank. The Commodore remains here five or six days and then proceeds to Penang—as does also the CURLEW. The SOPHIE sails for Bombay and the Gulph on Monday or Tuesday next.

A Reasonable Man.

SIR,

To the Editor of the Journal.

I understand that a speculative Individual has launched out the enormous Premium of Sicca Rupees 61,400 for the purchase of the 28th Calcutta Lottery! This Premium he intends, I believe, to make us pay with an additional Premium of about 25,000 Rupees by way of profit to himself. Independent of these heavy taxes upon our purses, we pay a further sum of Sicca Rupees 72,000 for the Improvement of the Town of Calcutta; making in all Sicca Rupees 1,58,400! Now, Sir, you must admit this is most ruinous to us, who have for a series of years been paying for Tickets 16 and 20 per cent. and even 30 per cent. more than they are worth, exclusive of the loss of Interest and the 12 per cent. deducted from the Prizes. Surely these Lottery Purchasers must take us to be fools, to think that we would countenance such undertakings in paying this ruinous Premium of 61,400 Rupees, and then expect us to make it good to them with a further sum of 25,000 Rupees, as a remuneration for an Act which is not only detrimental to us, but must have our entire disapprobation. Why, Sir, if things go on at this rate, we must think of making a better use of our Money than to lay it out in such an uncertain Speculation as a Lottery; or, in other words, to give sanction to the act of one who looks to his own interest and cares not a fig for ours. I understand that if this Purchaser, who has out-bidden all others, had not meddled with our affairs, we should have got the Lottery at par or for a mere trifling premium. Now, then, instead of thanking him for his trouble, I will tell him, that I will not lay out a single Rupee in the present Lottery; and if others will see the expediency of following my example, we shall soon see future Lotteries selling at par, that is, 100 Rupees each Ticket, which is both reasonable and fair.—I am, Sir,

Intally, Sept. 21, 1822.

A REASONABLE MAN.

NOTE OF THE EDITOR.

We have printed this Letter, principally to shew that "REASONABLE MEN," of which the Writer deems himself one, are often the most unreasonable beings in the world. According to such men's notions nothing is reasonable that does not tend to benefit *them*;—and confounding all notions of right and wrong, and reversing all the maxims of political economy, they think it criminal in others to study their individual interests, though this is so exclusively their own pursuit, that every thing which does not square with it they unconditionally condemn. If ever an Institution was wanted, it is a School for "REASONABLE MEN," where they might unlearn all the unreasonable notions of their youth and manhood.

Shipping Departures.

CALCUTTA.

Date	Names of Vessels	Flags	Commanders	Destination
Sept. 23	Upton Castle	British	W. Morgan	Bombay
23	Cameos	Portz.	D. J. da Rosa	Lisbon

Stations of Vessels in the River.

CALCUTTA, SEPTEMBER 23, 1822.

At Diamond Harbour.—ERNAAD, (H. C. S.), proceeded down,—MOIRA, passed up.  
Kedgerie.—MANY, (Schooner), outward-bound, remains.  
New Anchorage.—H. C. Ships PRINCE REGENT, and ASIA.  
Sangor.—JULIANA, outward-bound, remains.

An inward-bound Ship, anchored below the Light House, name not ascertained.

The GEORGE CRUTTENDEN, arrived off Calcutta on the 22d instant, and the PEKHLOP, (F.) arrived at Cooley Bazar on the 23d.

PASSAGERS.

Passengers per Ship MOIRA, Captain William Horrible, from Portsmouth the 1st of May, and Madras the 10th of September.

From London.—Mrs. Chesney, Mrs. Penrose, Miss Twentyman, Lieutenant Chesney, of the Honorable Company's Artillery, Lieutenant Penrose, of the Honorable Company's Infantry, Messrs. J. T. Boileau and John Chesney, Cadets, Messrs. Twentyman, Richardson, and Samuel Stapleton, Free Merchants.

Bombay News.

Bombay, Wednesday, August 28, 1822.—On Sunday last John Lockie and Wm. Nichol, Esquires, were chosen Elders of the Scotch Church.

The TRAVANCORE, Captain Boog, arrived here from the Gulf on the 24th instant. By this opportunity we learn, from a respectable Persian merchant, that an army belonging to the Prince of Persia was stationed at Soolemannia near Bagdad. A body of men from Bagdad, attacked and defeated the Prince's Troops, and Soolemannia was taken. The Prince recaptured Soolemannia after a desperate action, in which a number of men of the Bagdad Army were killed. The Governor of Soolemannia escaped by flight to Bagdad, followed closely by the Army of the Prince.

A Sirdar from Room, (a Military Leader from Turkey?) it was reported, with 70,000 men, had reached Arzroom; and the Prince of Persia's Brother, Abbas Mirza, with a Force of 60,000 men, had marched to oppose him; whether any battle took place or not is yet unknown.

The Governor of Abushire, Shaik Abdool Russol Khan, was sent for by Hoosein Ali Mirza of Shiraz, who honored him with a handsome present, and directed him to prepare to march against Bassora. At Abushire the market is favourable.—Bombay ne Sunnacher.

NATIVE NEWSPAPERS.

TRANSLATIONS FROM THE SUNBAD COWMOODY.

No. XLI.

Roxege of Diarrhoea.—On Wednesday night the 6th of Bhandro, one Juggerwan Koombhokar, who resided on the west side of Goura Tank in Bales Gunje, having taken his meal, returned to his work as usual till about 3 o'clock in the morning, before he repaired to his bed, he went into the privy. When he returned, he complained of a severe belly-ache, insomuch that he could not stand upon his legs, and wished to have his bed prepared. Soon after, however, he signified his wish of being carried to the river side, as he was sure he would not survive his present illness, beyond half after one in the next day. The patient was accordingly taken to the banks of the river Ganges, where he breathed his last precisely at the time of his prediction. His widow now said, she could not burn herself with the dead body of her husband, but that she would die at the same hour on the next afternoon. Upon this she was laughed at, and the friends and relations of the deceased having burnt the corpse and performed other funeral rites, went home. At night the widow was seized with the same illness, and having had only one motion, the next day she was removed to the river side and there expired. Farther, the daughter of the deceased being requested by her husband to go to his house and there to perform the Chotoorthe Krea, \* refused, and to the utter astonishment of every body, declared that she also was to depart this life in the moon of the ensuing day. Accordingly she had but one motion in the night, and died on the next day at half past one.

Her daughter-in-law again has been almost brought to the point of death by an attack of the Diarrhoea, and altho' it has pleased God to preserve her to this moment, yet we have no reason whatever to expect her recovery, we can never be certain about futurity; that depends entirely upon Providence.

We are really surprised at the dangerous illness, and cannot understand its nature.

Infanticide.—We are informed by a letter from the Zillah of Cawnpore, that one Kassee Naut, resident in Kontorowa in the said Zillah, had a son of about five years of age, whose name was Deboke Nandon. In the month of August last, this little boy happened to play in the streets, in company with other children, among which, in particular, was the daughter of Lachmon Sooklo, a neighbour, who coming thither to carry her home, and finding Deboke Nandon had some gold and silver jewels on his body, took them both to his house. There he committed the most cruel murder on the person of this poor innocent creature, and having stripped it of all the jewels, concealed the body under a heap of rubbish! Not long after, however, the father of Deboke Nandon finding it was getting late and the boy did not return home, went out to look after him, when, to his greatest grief and regret, he was informed of all the particulars by the daughter of the cruel Lachmon. Kassee Naut instantly called at the house of the murderous wretch, and taking out the dead body from under the heap, gave notice of it to the Thanah, at this the Durrogah coming to the scene of murder, bound Lachmon and dispatched him to the Judge of the District.

\* The ceremony performed by daughters in solemnization of funeral rites on the fourth day of their parents' demise. Trans.